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# Daily Report

# East Asia

FBIS-EAS-93-024
Monday
8 February 1993

# Daily Report
## East Asia

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**NOTICE TO READERS:** An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

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## Mekong River Cooperation Agreement Signed

*BK0502091493 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 5 Feb 93*

[Text] The Agreement on Cooperation and Development of the Mekong River was signed on 5 February in Hanoi. Thai Deputy Foreign Minister Surin, who attended the signing ceremony, expressed his hope that the agreement will pave the way for closer cooperation among the four member countries of the Mekong Committee, allow China and Burma to be included in the committee, and lay the foundation for future cooperation along the entire length of the Mekong River.

After the signing, a working group will be set up to draft basic regulations for cooperation on and development of the Mekong River.

## Mekong Committee Decides To Meet in Apr

*BK0602023993 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 6 Feb 93 p 6*

[Text] Hanoi—Senior officials of Thailand, Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia yesterday decided to meet in Thailand early in April for talks on a new framework for cooperation in the development of the Mekong River's resources.

The decision was announced at the end of the first session of the working group entrusted with charting a new framework for cooperation with Cambodia's participation after an absence of about 17 years.

The session set October as the target date for settlement of two key issues: principles for the sustainable use of the river's water resources and institutional and management issues related to the mechanisms of cooperation.

The working group was given guidelines for the formulation of a new cooperation framework under an agreement signed in Hanoi yesterday afternoon by deputy foreign ministers of the four riparian states.

A joint communique setting broad principles for cooperation was a companion to the agreement signed in a ceremony witnessed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the diplomatic corps based in this Vietnamese capital.

Vietnam's Deputy Prime Minister Tran Duc Luong was also at the landmark event.

Deputy Foreign Minister Surin Phitsuwan signed the agreement on behalf of Thailand.

His counterparts were Vietnamese Vice-Foreign Minister Nguyen Dy Nien, Laotian Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Forestry Sitaheng Latsaphon, and Cambodia's Ing Kiet, representing the Supreme National Council.

The agreement relegated to history the Interim Mekong Committee which had been set up to continue projects that were possible without Cambodia's participation.

A setting aside of differences between Vietnam and Thailand made the resumption of work under the new arrangement possible.

Yesterday's step forward followed "mutual accommodation" between the two countries, Deputy Foreign Minister Surin said.

Differences between the two had stalled efforts to bring Cambodia back into the fold shortly after the peace agreement was signed in October 1991.

"What has started today (Friday) is the process of consultations, confidence-building, looking for common positions rather than dwelling on differences, in order to take the next evolutionary steps in the cooperation among the four riparian countries," UNDP official Krishnan Singh said in a keynote address to the working group meeting.

In formal comments, Dr Surin pointed out that the new framework allows for the four riparian states to consider the eventual entry of two other countries sharing the river, China and Burma.

"The future framework needs not only address the single issue of water utilisation, but indeed all attempts should be made to expand this one dimensional cooperation into other areas such as tourism transport and navigation, irrigation and agriculture, fishery and livestock.

"We should not also lose sight of the need to develop the whole length of the Mekong," he said.

Vietnam's Vice-Foreign Minister did not specifically allude to the question of expanded membership.

"We are very happy that Cambodia is with us. I share the view that new situations have arisen after 36 years and we have to discuss this in the new spirit of cooperation," he said.

Cambodian representative Ing Kieth expressed support for the participation of China and Burma.

"My delegation appreciates the idea that this cooperation would in due course be extended to all riparian countries of the Big River, aimed at promoting an extended regional cooperation in favour of the development of a stable environment and effective cooperation for development," he said.

Laos expressed hope that yesterday's ceremony would mark the first step towards the normalisation of activities in the Mekong Basin.

## Japan

### Miyazawa's Plans To Visit U.S. Reported

*OW0702014893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0130 GMT 7 Feb 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 7 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa plans to visit the United States in late March or early April for talks with U.S. President Bill Clinton, the YOMIURI SHIMBUN said Sunday.

The major daily newspaper also reported that Miyazawa is considering visiting Europe in late April and early May for talks with European leaders prior to the summit meeting of seven major industrialized democracies to be held in ToKyo in July.

The daily, however, did not specify what European nations Miyazawa intends to visit during the "Golden Week" holiday-filled period from April 29 to May 5.

According to the YOMIURI, Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe will arrange Miyazawa's visit to the U.S. when he visits Washington February 11-14.

The government has decided to quickly arrange a Miyazawa visit to the U.S. to confirm the friendly relationship between the two countries before the Clinton administration maps its policy toward Japan, the paper said.

### Hayashi, Bentsen To Meet in Washington 13 Feb

*OW0802075493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0738 GMT 8 Feb 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 8 KYODO—Japanese Finance Minister Yoshiro Hayashi and U.S. Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen will hold their first meeting in Washington Saturday [13 February], financial sources said Monday.

It will be the first Japan-U.S. high-level financial meeting since Hayashi became finance minister in December and Bentsen took office in January.

The House of Representative's Steering Committee Monday approved Hayashi's U.S. trip for February 12-14, parliamentary officials said.

### Call Renewed for Settling Territories Issue

*OW0702084793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0830 GMT 7 Feb 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 7 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa on Sunday renewed calls for settling a decades-long territorial dispute, concluding a peace treaty and establishing fully normalized ties with Russia.

In his speech at a rally for the return of four Russian-held islands off Hokkaido, Miyazawa said a solution of the territorial row will benefit not only both countries but the international community as well.

The prime minister welcomed last month's agreement between the foreign ministers of both countries to continue serious efforts toward realizing an early visit to Japan by Russian President Boris Yeltsin.

The agreement was reached between Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe and his Russian counterpart Andrey Kozyrev in Paris on January 13.

Yeltsin abruptly canceled a trip to Japan scheduled for mid-September, citing domestic problems. But he later implied that Japan's uncompromising stance on the territorial dispute was one reason for the cancellation.

Watanabe also told the rally that Japan will continue to be tenacious in negotiations with Russia to win the return of the islands—Etorofu, Kunashiri, Shikotan, and the Habomai group of islets, which are located east of the country's northernmost main island of Hokkaido.

Japan has long demanded the return of the islands, which the former Soviet Union seized at the end of World War II.

Some 2,000 people attended the rally, cosponsored by the Management and Coordination Agency and the National Association of Governors.

In 1981, the Japanese Government designated February 7 as "northern territories day" to commemorate the signing of the 1855 treaty between Japan and Russia on commerce, navigation and delimitation.

The treaty set the Russo-Japanese border between Uruppu and Etorofu Islands, meaning that the four Russian-held islands belong to Japan.

### U.N. Chief Denies Seeking Constitution Change

*OW0602094893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0925 GMT 6 Feb 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 6 KYODO—United Nations chief Butrus Butrus-Ghali has denied Japanese reports that he hopes Japan will change its Constitution so that its troops can take part in more heavily armed U.N. peace enforcement operations, the ASAHI SHIMBUN said Saturday.

In an interview with the ASAHI in the U.N. Headquarters in New York, Butrus-Ghali was quoted as saying that he has never said such a thing, but he does hope for greater Japanese participation in U.N. activities.

In an interview with KYODO News Service on Wednesday, the U.N. chief said, "My hope is that the government of Japan will be able to change the Constitution so that it will allow the Japanese forces to participate in operations of peace enforcement."

Asked by the ASAHI about Japan's desire to seek a permanent seat on the U.N. Security council, Butrus-Ghali said a military contribution is not a precondition for becoming a powerful council member.

Commenting in the KYODO interview about Tokyo's bid to have a permanent seat, he said it is important Japan has a "greater role in the military peacekeeping operation."

The U.N. chief's interviews with Japanese media took place prior to his visit to Tokyo from February 15-19.

Butrus-Ghali's remarks came in a midst of mounting calls by senior members of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party to revise the Constitution in order to expand Japan's contributions to U.N. peacekeeping and peacemaking operations.

Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa and other government leaders, however, have reacted negatively from a perspective of protecting the Japan's war-renouncing Constitution.

At a news conference Friday, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yohei Kono said, "Each nation (must distinguish) what it can do and what it cannot do."

Article 9 of the Constitution bans the use of force as a means of settling international conflicts. Japan has limited its participation in U.N. peacekeeping to activities that do not involve military force.

## Cabinet Secretary Noncommittal on UN Proposal

*OW0802050793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0440 GMT 8 Feb 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 8 KYODO—Chief Cabinet Secretary Yohei Kono remained noncommittal Monday on how Japan should appraise United Nations Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali's call for the country to join U.N. "peace enforcement" operations.

Asked whether he shares Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe's support for creating of a U.N. rapid deployment force, Kono reiterated that the concept is still being debated by the international community.

Kono declined to reveal Japan's views of the pros and cons of the proposed force, but said Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa would explain Tokyo's position if the subject is raised in talks with Butrus-Ghali during his visit to Japan on February 15-19.

In media interviews last week Butrus-Ghali urged Japan to contribute to all peacekeeping activities as well as a proposed "peace enforcing" force, which would involve the dispatch of armed forces regardless of whether the warring parties requested it.

Japanese law restricts participation in U.N. peacekeeping operations to tasks unlikely to require the use of force. The disputing parties must also approve of the U.N. involvement.

There is a deep division whether Japan's war-renouncing Constitution would allow the country to contribute to military forces under U.N. command.

Article 9 of the Constitution stipulates the Japanese people "forever renounce war as a sovereign right of the nation and the use of threat or use of force as means of settling international disputes."

Kono also declined to comment on Watanabe's support for a recently released ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) report that concluded the Constitution permits military contributions to the U.N.

Kono said he did not intend to bring up the matter with Watanabe, who also serves as deputy prime minister, because he does not believe such a force will materialize in the near future.

Last week a panel headed by former LDP Secretary General Ichiro Ozawa said that Japan could join in U.N. military operations without revising the Constitution.

## Tokyo To Advance Foreign Aid Plan at Summit

*OW0602053893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0506 GMT 6 Feb 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 6 KYODO—Japan will propose a comprehensive package of aid to developing nations at the Tokyo Summit of seven industrialized countries in July, government sources said Saturday.

The sources said the proposal, tentatively called the Tokyo Charter, is designed to promote and consolidate democratic and free economic systems in developing nations in the post-cold war era.

The package will reflect Japan's economic policies toward its allies in the Asia-Pacific region, the sources said.

The charter also aims to help developing nations around the world overcome problems arising from famine, the inflow of refugees, external debts, destruction of the environment and AIDS, they said.

With the collapse of the postwar East-West confrontation, these problems have to be dealt with on a global basis, the sources said.

The package will provide for controls of official development assistance to nations trying to develop and produce weapons of mass destruction, the sources said.

Japan has instituted a four-point policy for its official development assistance, including a ban on the extension of aid to such countries.

"It is important to adopt and confirm a new foreign aid concept and unified target at the forthcoming summit," said one source.

The charter calls on the advanced nations participating in the summit to contribute to economic development and political stability in developing nations on an equal partnership, the sources said.

## Foreign Minister Discusses World Issues

*OW0702060293*

[Editorial report] Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese at 0000 GMT on 7 January carries a 60-minute panel discussion with Japanese Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe by commentator Naoki Tanaka, Shizuoka University Professor Terumasa Nakanishi, and host Korehito Obama.

### Trade Imbalance, "Extremist" Moves, Policy Coordination

After briefly discussing the recent economic friction between Japan and the United States and the Cambodian situation, Obama asks Watanabe to comment on the resurgence of economic friction between the United States and Japan. Watanabe notes that the new U.S. Administration puts U.S. economic reconstruction at the top of its agenda and says: "Japan has registered nearly $100,000,000,000 in trade surplus. The United States believes that half of these figures come from trade with the United States. I believe that this trade imbalance between the two countries should by all means be corrected." Discussing the new administration's economic policy, Watanabe says: "If the new administration tries to make a major shift in U.S. economic policy to achieve immediate economic results, it would encounter a great backlash at home and abroad. This is economic theory. I believe that the new administration should avoid taking extremist measures. The Japanese Government must talk with the new administration on this point. The Japanese Government has no intention of discussing specific economic issues with the new administration. Japan and the United States have maintained friendly relations since the conclusion of the Japan-U.S. security treaty, and it is important for the two countries to affirm that they will continue to maintain friendly relations. Specifically, the two countries should discuss how to maintain the treaty in the future, how to deal with U.S. forces in Japan, and how to deal with economic friction and the Structural Impediments Initiative [SII] talks. There are many matters that the two countries must discuss. If Japan and the United States were to pursue different foreign policies and world strategies, it would be ridiculous. The two countries should coordinate their policies."

### Upcoming U.S. Visit

Discussing what sort of talks the Japanese Government should hold with the Clinton administration on economic issues between the two countries, Watanabe says: "Since I will not visit the United States to negotiate on any specific economic issues, no working-level officials will accompany me in my visit to that country. However, I intend to seek an agreement with the U.S. side on methods for holding bilateral talks on bilateral economic issues."

Discussing the foreign minister's planned visit to Washington, Nakanishi says that with Japan's trade surplus standing at nearly $100,000,000,000 and the Clinton administration setting no policy toward Japan, even if the Japanese foreign minister visits Washington his talks with officials in the new administration will not go smoothly. Watanabe replies: "There are various views. I intend to explain what the Japanese Government thinks to officials of the Clinton administration, before the administration firms up its policy toward Japan." He then stresses the need to build personal relationships with officials in the new administration.

### Human Rights in Indonesia, PRC

Watanabe is then asked to comment on human rights in Asia, to which he replies: "You just mentioned the human rights issue in Indonesia. I have had no opportunity to speak about the domestic situation in Indonesia. I have never written to the president of that country on the human rights issue. However, I did send a personal letter to the Indonesian foreign minister expressing my view on the human rights situation in that country, and it appears that my personal letter has been shown to the president." Watanabe, noting that he worked for improved Sino-U.S. relations even before he became foreign minister, says: "I went to the PRC to discuss the human rights situation with government officials one year after the Tiananmen incident occurred. I discussed the issue of releasing political prisoners with Chinese officials and the issue of stopping the jamming of VOA and other issues. Outwardly, the Chinese officials agreed with my proposals. However, they told me that they have to decide on such issues, not the U.S. Congress. They also told me that the human rights issue is a domestic matter for China. Nonetheless, China released 2,500,000 [figure as heard] political prisoners one week after I returned to Tokyo. Like the United States and other nations, Japan intends to ask the PRC to respect human rights. If the PRC violates human rights, Japan, as a nation friendly to the PRC, will continue to urge that country to stop violating human rights."

### U.S. Policy on PRC

Turning to the Clinton administration's policy toward the PRC, Obama says that it is expected to pursue a hostile policy toward the PRC and then asks Watanabe to comment. In response, Watanabe refutes Obama's comment, saying that the "Clinton administration will not pursue such a policy toward the PRC."

### Changing Russian, Chinese View of Japan

Discussing the breakup of the Soviet Union, Watanabe notes the formation of the Self-Defense Forces and the conclusion of the Japan-U.S. security treaty to counter the spread of communism in Asia and other parts of the world. He says: "During the cold war period, the United States and the Soviet Union tried to kill each other with their ballistic nuclear missiles. One-third of those ballistic nuclear missiles remain in the hands of the two countries, and the two nations intend to keep those ballistic missiles into the 21st Century. In reality, however, Russia, the Soviet Union's successor, has lost its strength, and the Yeltsin government is saying that Russia will no longer pose a threat to other countries. The United States feels that Russia's power has been substantially weakened. Following the breakup of the Soviet Union, Russia and the PRC established diplomatic relations with the ROK, and Russia will no longer back the DPRK. Under these circumstances, I think that Russia and the PRC will not see Japan as a hypothetical enemy."

### Future U.S. Relations, Uruguay Round

Turning to the Clinton administration's policy on Japan, Nakanishi says that the new administration will pursue the policy of placing great importance on Japan and asks Watanabe to comment on the new administration's Japan policy. In response, Watanabe says: "Japan and the United States must value their relations despite a change in the U.S. Administration. This is important to Japan, and both the United States and Japan must realize that they should work together for peace and prosperity in Asia, which will benefit both of them. President Clinton spoke of the importance of Japanese-U.S. relations in his speech. Although the new U.S. Administration is expected to make specific requests to Japan, I believe that the two countries will treasure their bilateral relations in the future. The two nations should discuss how to deal with the Uruguay Round. In any case, the Uruguay Round should be concluded by March; however, I think that, in reality, there is not enough time left to do so. Recently, I visited European nations and heard Mitterrand's views. He took a tough stance on the Uruguay Round and told me that there would be no change in France's stance even after the March elections. The Uruguay Round will continue as long as the United States does not demand its suspension."

### Hopes To Meet Clinton During U.S. Visit

Discussing Watanabe's planned visit to Washington, Obama asks Watanabe if he will meet President Clinton. Watanabe replies: "I hope to meet the President, but the primary objective of my visit is to hold talks with Secretary of State Christopher. The president is now busy dealing with congressional matters and studying policy options. Nonetheless, I hope to meet him."

### Russian Aid Request, Debt to Japan

Discussing the Tokyo summit scheduled for July, Obama says that the issue of providing aid to Russia will be high on the agenda of the summit and then asks Watanabe to comment on the issue. In response, Watanabe says: "There are various views on aid to Russia. In the past, I was once viewed as a hard-liner toward Russia, and some Russian leaders shared that view. Lately, however, they have become well aware of me. Many Russian leaders say that they agree with what Foreign Minister Watanabe is saying. Nevertheless, Japan will not provide aid to Russia as it hopes. During a series of meetings with EC leaders and President Mitterrand, I said that they had asked Japan to provide aid, claiming that since the Soviet Union broke up and Russia, the Soviet Union's successor state, is now trying to replace communism with democracy, suppression with freedom, and a planned economy with a free economy, the rest of the world should accept what Russia says at face value and provide aid. However, I told them that Japan will help Russia in the same ways the United States, Britain, and France have helped." Watanabe also notes that Russia's accumulated debt to Japan totals $6,500,000,000.

### Russian Aid, Northern Territories

Explaining the urgent need to provide foreign aid to Russia, where nationalists are gaining power, Tanaka points out that Japan's diplomacy toward Russia attaches importance to returning the northern islands. He then says that it is not right to give priority to the territorial issue when Russia is in dire need of financial help from other countries. In response, Watanabe says: "Well, it is a different story. Japan is providing aid, and there is no reason for us to give Russia several times more aid than other developed countries." He adds: "We are giving aid to Russia irrespective of the northern territories."

Nakanishi says the United States, judging from the Clinton administration's lineup, may assume a considerably more active stance regarding aid to Russia than the previous administration. He then asks Watanabe to comment on this observation. Wananabe says: "We are saying that we will contribute our due share as a member of international society. There is no doubt about this; however, I cannot buy the view that we should not make any demands at all concerning the territorial issue. I will say whatever we have to say—and whether or not they will respond to us is a different matter."

Responding to Obama's view that Japan, as the only nation that enjoys a huge trade surplus, may need to play a central role in providing aid to Russia, Watanabe says Germany, which is the largest donor nation, and Japan have different historic backgrounds with Russia. Watanabe continues, saying: "We will contribute as much as the United States and France are."

### Russian Vice President's Visit Request Not Received

Obama briefly brings the discussion to Vice President Rutskoy's possible visit to Japan in March. Watanabe says that although he is aware of it, he has "not received an official request" on this matter.

### Cambodian Developments

Moving to the issue of the escalating fight between the Pol Pot faction and the Phnom Penh government, Obama asks Watanabe to comment on how the situation will change in Cambodia. Watanabe replies: "The Pol Pot faction is not saying that the Paris accord has been nullified, and they are not saying that there is no longer a cease-fire accord. Senior officials from the Pol Pot faction are still members of the Supreme National Council, and top faction officials are living in the best part of the palace in Phnom Penh. I am of the view that the recent happenings were caused by lesser groups, or shall I say rebel groups, from the faction. Therefore, we are not thinking of immediately withdrawing our people from Cambodia because it is in violation of the agreement. Japanese Ambassador to Cambodia Imagawa is asking the Phnom Penh Government not to overreact."

Asked what will become of Japan's peacekeeping operations in Cambodia and how the Japanese Government is planning to deal with the issues of Cambodian presidential elections, Watanabe says: "We are not thinking about taking independent action. The United Nations is playing the role of mediator, and Japan is merely one UN member. The chief of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia happens to be Japanese. More than 90 percent of the Cambodian people have registered for the elections. Nobody knows who is going to win, and nobody knows which faction—Prince Sihanouk's son, the Phnom Penh Government, or the Pol Pot faction—the people will support. However, the United Nations is in favor of holding elections in May, as scheduled, and will try to persuade the Pol Pot faction until the last minute. The Japanese Government also feels the same way; therefore, the elections will probably be held regardless of whether or not the Pol Pot faction will take part in them."

### Revising Constitution, Peacekeeping Forces

In connection with peacekeeping operations in Cambodia, Obama asks Watanabe if he shares the same view with UN Secretary General Butrus-Ghali, who recently commented on the need to revise the Japanese Constitution to enable Japan to join peacekeeping forces to ensure stability in the post-cold war period. Watanabe answers: "I can understand his comment, except the part on revising the Constitution. Since the United States and Britain have stopped acting as the world's police, many regional wars have broken out in various countries, including Iraq and Somalia. The United Nations just cannot leave these wars untouched." He adds: "However, certain Diet resolutions forbid Japan from taking part in military actions. What I mean by a military action is taking part in the process of disarmament, protecting weapons collected by disarmament, or removing mines. Japan is saying that it cannot take part in these activities for the time being because the Diet has not approved such actions. We know that Butrus-Ghali has good ideas, but a great stir will be created if the Japanese Government says it agrees with him. I am sure you know how I feel."

### Revising UN Structure

Discussing the need to revise the UN's organizational structure, Watanabe points out that the UN Charter unfairly treats Germany and Japan. He continues to say that since Japan is a top financial donor and because of changes in the international situation, the UN organizational structure should be revised. He says: "I think it is a matter of course to review the UN Charter because 50 years have passed." He then continues to explain the significance of Japan's financial and other contributions, including a proposal made to establish a UN arms control registration system.

### Ozawa Group Study on Constitution, Forces

Regarding recent moves within the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) to revise the Japanese Constitution, Obama asks Watanabe to comment on a report the Ozawa study group recently submitted to Prime Minister Miyazawa. Referring to the study group's interpretation of the Japanese Constitution that the Self-Defense Forces can take part in UN forces' activities, Watanabe says: "I have read only the headlines of the report, and even though I have not carefully read it, I think that it is one of many ideas. The LDP did not authorize it. It is only a report made by the prime minister's advisory body. We have to make a party decision on the report after studying it at the LDP Executive Council. Therefore, the advisory body submitted a report to the prime minister—that is all. Well, the idea of the report is based on the spirit of the Constitution. In short, the Constitution stipulates that Japan should make international contributions by all means and that Japan needs to abide by treaties. It also says that Japan is a member of the United Nations; therefore, it is our principle to abide by UN decisions. What the report is trying to say is that participation is in line with the spirit of the Constitution." He continues to explain his interpretation of the Constitution, saying that it explains Japan will "not dispatch military forces abroad as a means of exercising national rights."

At 0100 GMT, Obama concludes the discussion by wishing Watanabe a successful trip to the United States.

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## Ozawa Agrees To Testify in Scandal Case

*OW0802121493 Tokyo KYODO in English 1145 GMT 8 Feb 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 8 KYODO—Ichiro Ozawa, former secretary general of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), has agreed to testify as a sworn witness in the Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin money-and-mob scandal, LDP officials said Monday.

Ozawa has conveyed the decision to Seiroku Kajiyama, the current LDP secretary general, the officials said.

Having Ozawa testify in the Diet has been a key demand of opposition parties trying to get to the heart of the scandal.

Analysts said that by testifying Ozawa hopes to clear his name, tarnished because of his close links with former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita and former LDP kingpin Shin Kanemaru, who was forced to quit as LDP vice president and a House of Representatives member for accepting an illegal donation of 500 million yen.

Takeshita is under opposition fire for allegedly seeking the influence of a crime boss, now dead, to win the party leadership that automatically made him prime minister in 1987.

With his decision to appear as a sworn witness, Ozawa also wants to rid a new LDP faction that he co-founded with his protege Tsutomu Hata, of the shadowy image stemming from Ozawa's alleged part in the scandal, the analysts said.

Ozawa has been linked to a meeting on October 5, 1987, among Takeshita, Kanemaru, and Hiroyasu Watanabe, former president of the Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin parcel delivery company.

He allegedly secured the consent of the two politicians to seek help from Japan's third-biggest gang leader, the late Susumu Ishii of the Inagawakai syndicate.

The discussion is said to have centered on coping with the rightist group Nihon Kominto, which had staged a smear campaign against Takeshita while he was vying for LDP presidency.

Ozawa earlier told a television news program that he attended the talks at a Tokyo hotel but that he was "merely delivering ashtrays and beverages for them."

Takeshita and Watanabe allegedly became indebted to Ishii, as the gang boss reportedly helped persuade the rightist group to halt the harassment campaign against Takeshita.

## Diet Debate Stalled Over Sagawa Kyubin Issue

*OW0802060993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0550 GMT 8 Feb 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 8 KYODO—House of Representatives Budget Committee deliberations are unlikely to resume Monday after the ruling party failed to respond to an opposition demand for Diet testimony on the Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin money-and-mobster scandal, Diet sources said.

The governing Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), at a meeting of its lower house panel directors Monday morning, went back on an earlier pledge and postponed presenting proposals on who should testify as sworn or unsworn witnesses on the scandal, the sources said.

As a result, they said, the opposition camp protested about the LDP's handling of the scandal, increasing the chances of Diet debate on the fiscal 1993 budget being stalemated at least until Tuesday.

The Social Democratic Party (SDP), Komeito, and the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP) issued statements charging that the LDP is trying to obstruct probes into the political corruption case by using the budget and its pump-priming measures as an excuse.

The LDP and the three opposition parties had agreed that key figures allegedly involved in the political scandal should testify before the lower house budget committee from February 17 to 19.

The ruling party also promised to reply to the opposition demand to summon six witnesses, including former LDP Secretary General Ichiro Ozawa and former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, to the Diet as sworn witnesses in connection with the scandal.

Ozawa has reportedly told LDP Secretary General Seiroku Kajiyama that he is willing to appear before the Diet as either a sworn or unsworn witness to testify on his alleged involvement in the Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin scandal, LDP sources said.

In a telephone conversation with Kajiyama, Ozawa said he would leave the decision on the matter up to the LDP leadership, the sources said.

Kajiyama said Saturday the LDP will have to accept the opposition demand that Ozawa be summoned to the Diet to testify under oath.

The opposition wants to probe allegations that Takeshita obtained the assistance of a gangland boss to end a right-wing group's campaign against him in 1987, when he was vying for the LDP presidency. Takeshita, who won the LDP presidential election and with it the premiership, has denied the allegations.

Ozawa, a one-time close ally of Takeshita, is said to know something about the former prime minister's alleged involvement in the scandal.

## Mieno Postpones 10 Feb News Conference

*OW0502101193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0948 GMT 5 Feb 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 5 KYODO—Bank of Japan Governor Yasushi Mieno has postponed a news conference scheduled for next Wednesday for one week to February 17, the central bank said Friday.

Bank officials said this is because Mieno met the media Thursday after the central bank announced a cut in the official discount rate.

The bank reduced the key lending rate by 0.75 percentage point to 2.5 percent per annum effective Thursday.

## LDP on Studying Income Tax Cut Possibility

*OW0502165493 Tokyo KYODO in English 1459 GMT 5 Feb 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 5 KYODO—The ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) promised Friday to positively study the possibility of an income tax cut on condition that the fiscal 1993 state budget passes the Diet within fiscal 1992, ending March 31.

Top executives from the LDP and Japan's largest trade union confederation Rengo, including LDP Secretary General Seiroku Kajiyama and Rengo President Akira Yamagishi, agreed to separate debate of the budget and the money-and-mob Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin scandal to ensure passage of the budget before the end of the current fiscal year, the officials said. It was the first ever summit meeting between the LDP and the Japanese trade union confederation (Rengo) since Rengo was set up in 1989.

Yamagishi told reporters after the meeting that Rengo demanded more than 4 trillion yen in income tax cuts. Kajiyama was quoted as replying that the LDP will respond flexibly on the question of a tax reduction if the budget is approved by March 20.

Yamagishi said, "I have the same view as you in getting the budget through the Diet within this fiscal year from an economic standpoint." Yamagishi said it is not appropriate for opposition parties to hold the budget hostage to opposition demands.

Yamagishi said Rengo will pressure the opposition to get the budget through the Diet by late March so that it can be put into effect from April 1. The LDP and the Rengo leaders also agreed to hold regular meetings.

### Gotoda Cautious About Amnesty for Criminals

*OW0502120493 Tokyo KYODO in English 1148 GMT 5 Feb 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 5 KYODO—Justice Minister Masaharu Gotoda cautioned Friday that a proposed amnesty for some criminals might undermine the democratic mechanism of checks and balances among the three branches of power by nullifying court convictions.

The proposal of granting a general amnesty to commemorate the upcoming wedding of Crown Prince Naruhito and former diplomat Masako Owada was put forward by some legislators of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP). They are to marry in May or June.

"The amnesty is a serious measure in connection with the principle of maintaining independence of the legislature, the executive and the judiciary, as it would allow the executive to nullify conclusions handed down by judicial courts," Gotoda warned.

The justice minister made the remark in a question-and-answer session at the House of Representatives Budget Committee.

Gotoda, however, did not rule out the possibility of an amnesty saying it "is a constitutional institution and Japan has repeatedly granted them since the end of World War II."

The proposed amnesty has already stirred up a row among legal experts and political scientists, many of whom have charged it would undercut the rule of law by benefiting many convicted criminals, especially those found guilty of rigging elections.

The government has granted amnesty on 10 occasions, including when Emperor Hirohito—posthumously named Emperor Showa—died in 1989 and at the time of Emperor Akihito's ascension to the throne.

In addition to Gotoda's comments, the Budget Committee heard Komeito legislator Shozo Kusakawa charge that former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita was implicated in a 1985 scandal in which he and his secretary Ihei Aoki allegedly defrauded the now-defunct Heiwa Sogo Bank of a portion of the 4 billion yen the bank paid for an ornamental gold screen.

In the gold screen scandal, Shigeaki Isaka, the bank's auditor, is alleged to have sought the influence of then Finance Minister Takeshita in 1985 through Aoki so Isaka could buy back thousands of the bank's shares to reestablish the bank management's control.

Press reports said Aoki convinced Isaka that a portion of the 4 billion yen would go to Takeshita in exchange for his influence in helping successfully conclude the share buy-back.

Kusakawa demanded that the LDP agree to opposition demands to summon Takeshita to the Diet to testify about his alleged roles in both the gold screen scandal and the Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin scandal.

Kusakawa also urged Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa to use his influence to persuade Takeshita to reappear before the Diet to tell the truth to the Diet.

Miyazawa rejected the demand, saying, "such an intention has not arisen in my heart."

## North Korea

### Foreign Ministry Criticizes West on Nuclear Issue

*SK0802000893 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2217 GMT 7 Feb 93*

[Text] On 7 February the DPRK Foreign Ministry spokesman answered a KCNA correspondent's question about how some Western press and publications are creating erroneous public opinion on the normalizing of relations between the DPRK and Japan and the DPRK and the United States and on our nuclear inspection issue. They are saying that if the nuclear issue is not resolved, normalization of DPRK-Japan and DPRK-U.S. relations cannot be realized and so on.

Some Western press and publications have recently created erroneous public opinion by saying that we are trying to improve DPRK-Japan and DPRK-U.S. relations because we are hoping for something. They are babbling that all problems will be solved when the nuclear issue is resolved.

Nuclear inspection is an issue that we and the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] should resolve. Nevertheless, the South Korean authorities and some countries, including the United States and Japan, are continuing to raise this as some kind of condition to improve relations. This is truly no way to resolve the nuclear issue; rather, it is being used as leverage to isolate and crush our republic.

Our people are very proud and regard the nation's dignity and independence as more important than life. We will not try to improve DPRK-Japan and DPRK-U.S. relations by allowing unreasonable interference in internal affairs or pressure from outside. We have never even thought about improving relations that way.

We do not want to improve relations with Japan or the United States by having our national dignity and sovereign rights infringed upon. We will resolve the issue of improving relations with them only under the condition that our sovereign rights are respected and when the principle of equality is guaranteed.

Some Western press and publications are babbling as if nuclear inspection stalemated because we rejected part of the nuclear inspection. This is fictitious and a fabrication, and it contradicts the truth. In reality, we are receiving inspection from the IAEA. In addition, we are continuing normal negotiations with the IAEA.

Through the IAEA's many nonregular inspections [pijonggi sachal] in our country, the innocent nature of our republic's nuclear policy to use nuclear energy only for peaceful purposes has been clearly proved.

Nevertheless, some classes and circles in the United States are spreading a false rumor that there are objects we have not reported to the IAEA, attempting to link them to our military objects. We have neither anuthing related to any contradictory point [mosunjom] talked about by Americans nor objects that we have not reported.

The United States wants to enforce inspection of military objects that have nothing to do with nuclear activities and is spreading the opinion that if we do not accept this inspection, special inspection must be applied. The military objects, which have nothing to do with nuclear issue, are not objects for inspection according to the Nuclear Safeguards Accord.

Moreover, talking about an inspection of objects based on intelligence offered by a certain country has no any legal basis according to the IAEA's regulations and the Nuclear Safeguards Accord, which was concluded between us and the agency.

The intelligence and satellite materials offered by a third country for the agency's use in inspection was raised in a meeting of the IAEA's Board of Governors in December 1991. However, it was voted down due to its members' strong opposition and rejection.

Therefore, the IAEA has no right to use the intelligence offered by a certain country for either nonregular inspections or special inspections [tukpyol sachal].

The United States attempted to open [kaebang] our military objects and bases via North-South mutual inspections. However, since this did not happen, the United States is trying to achieve its insidious purpose by using the IAEA.

The demand for inspection of military objects is related to the erroneous U.S. policy on Korea that infringes upon our sovereignty. It is a very serious military and political issue intended to make the IAEA interfere. Opening our military objects in response to the demand for such and inspection means the beginning of exposing all of our military objects and bases.

We absolutely will not accept nor tolerate anything that infringes on the nation's sovereignty and security. Infringing upon our dignity and sovereignty by distorting the truth and spreading false public opinion will only create artificial obstacles and barriers to satisfactorily advancing nuclear inspections.

The IAEA's nonregular inspection is proceding satisfactorily. At this very time, if any unjust act is forced upon us as a result of an attempt to use the problems for military and political purposes, problems that should be resolved between us and the agency, we will have to take corresponding self-defense measures. Moreover, if any consequences result, those who caused them will be held totally responsible.

## Daily Says Team Spirit Will 'Stain' U.S. Image

*SK0802105993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1045 GMT 8 Feb 93*

["Resumption of 'Team Spirit' To Be Condemned"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, February 8 (KCNA)—The "Team Spirit" joint military exercises will be of no benefit to the United States.

The resumption of the "Team Spirit" will stain the image of the United States which is vociferating about "peace", give rise to anti-U.S. sentiments in the world as well as the Korean peninsula and jeopardize its position. NODONG SINMUN says this today in a signed article on the resumption of the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises.

The article goes on:

Prof. Scalafino, an American expert in the affairs of the Korean peninsula, said that the United States' resumption of the suspended "Team Spirit" military manouevres was a wrong decision, and asked what profit the United States would get from it. Chambers Johnson, professor of California University who is majoring in the theory on international relations, said in a recommendation on the Asia policy of the United States: The situation of the Korean peninsula has radically changed. It is unreasonable in financial, political and moral aspects that the United States plays the role of a policeman in East Asia at this time when the cold war structure has broken down.

This is only a few instances proving that the resumption of the "Team Spirit" joint military manoeuvres is rejected within the United States itself as well as by the Korean nation and the world public. When the United States announced the plan to resume the "Team Spirit", it made a pretext of "nuclear threat" from the North. But, this is a disgraceful and shameful behaviour of the United States which is a largest nuclear state in the world and has deployed nuclear weapons in South Korea.

It is a brigandish act of an arrogant aggressor that the United States is resuming the "Team Spirit" nuclear war exercises, carping on the North with the nuclear issue, while creating a nuclear threat.

The United States is trying to justify its policy of occupation of South Korea with rumours about "nuclear threat" instead of the "threat from the North" it had used during the cold war period. And it is now playing with fire under this pretext.

The move of the United States to play the role of international gendarme and policeman, resorting to the anachronistic policy of strength today when the cold war has ended will invite protest and denunciation from the world people aspiring after independence, the South Korean people in particular.

Before it is too late, the United States must stop the harmful "Team Spirit" joint military exercises and do something helpful to the relaxation of tension on the Korean people and the North-South dialogue.

### Daily Says Team Spirit Hampers Nuclear Accord

*SK0602084193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0532 GMT 6 Feb 93*

["U.S. Will Be Blamed"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang February 6 (KCNA)—The United States and the South Korean authorities' resumption of the "Team Spirit" joint military maneuvers, a nuclear war rehearsal, conflicts with the idea and basic demand of the Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) and makes it impossible for us to implement the safeguards accord smoothly, says NODONG SINMUN today.

The situation demands that all the signatories to the NPT remain true to the idea and basic demand of the treaty and faithfully implement the safeguards accord, an analyst of the paper notes, and continues:

The "Team Spirit" is a war game to unleash a nuclear war against the DPRK. It is self-evident that the nuclear war rehearsal contradicts the idea and basic demand of the NPT.

It is well known worldwide that the DPRK is a non-nuclear state.

For the U.S. to resume the "Team Spirit" with the "suspicion of nuclear development" by the DPRK as a pretext is, in fact, little short of the declaration of nuclear war against the DPRK. The target of the "Team Spirit" is the DPRK. Under this situation, we cannot but take a self-defensive measure.

Both the U.S. and the DPRK are signatories to the NPT. For the U.S. to resume the "Team Spirit" in gross violation of the NPT and, at the same time, urge the DPRK to discharge its obligation under the treaty is too inequitable and brigandish.

It is up to the U.S. attitude whether the DPRK implements the safeguards accord, or not. In case the DPRK is unable to implement the safeguards accord smoothly, the U.S. will be held entirely responsible.

### South Said Responsible for No Dialogue

*SK0602101293 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0021 GMT 6 Feb 93*

[NODONG SINMUN 6 February commentary: "They Cannot Avoid Responsibility for Suspending Dialogue"]

[Text] Due to the provocative maneuvers of the United States and South Korean authorities to resume the nuclear war exercise against the North, various forms of North-South dialogue have been suspended.

Despite the repeated opposition and denunciation of all countrymen and peace-loving people of the world, the South Korean authorities officially announced that they would resume the Team Spirit joint military exercise together with the United States. This announcement broke up North-South dialogue and bars the North-South agreement from being implemented. This is also an intolerable antinational criminal act aimed at returning North-South relations back to its starting point of confrontation.

South Korean authorities are totally responsible for the suspension of North-South dialogue. The world acknowledges that the Team Spirit nuclear war exercise against the North is an obstacle to North-South dialogue.

In the past, various forms of long-awaited North-South dialogue were arranged only to be suspended or broken off due to the staging of the Team Spirit joint military exercise against their dialogue partner by the U.S. and South Korean authorities. The South Korean authorities themselves acknowledged this when they suspended the Team Spirit joint military exercise last year.

In order to make smooth progress in North-South dialogue for reconciliation, detente, and reunification, the Team Spirit joint military exercise must be suspended forever, not for a mere one or two years.

We have thus patiently advised and warned the South Korean authorities following their agreement with the United States to resume the Team Spirit nuclear war exercise, to retract it.

We held an urgent meeting between the Republic's government, parties, and organizations. Taking a serious look at the South Korean authorities' attempt to resume the suspended Team Spirit joint military exercise, we demanded that they retract it unconditionally. And, at nuclear talks on 25 January, the day before their official announcement to resume the military exercise, we strongly again faced them to demand that the South side withdraw its decision to resume the military exercise.

This originated from our position of love of the country and the people and our hope to continuously develop North-South dialogue toward reconciliation, detente, and reunification by averting a crisis in North-South dialogue by all means, and by putting the long-awaited North-South agreement into practice.

Countrymen at home and abroad who love the country and the people, but also peace-loving people of many countries in the world unanimously demanded that the decision to resume the Team Spirit joint military exercise be withdrawn.

The South Korean authorities, however, continue to talk of suspicions of our nonexistant nuclear development and attempt to use it as a pretext for resuming the Team Spirit nuclear war exercise. This is an extremely shameless, brigandish act.

Although they are uttering that the nuclear issue should be resolved, the nuclear issue has yet to be resolved completely due to the United States and the South Korean authorities.

The issue of nuclear weapons in the Korean peninsula emerged when the United States' introduced nuclear weapons to South Korea, and as a result our people have had to endure nuclear threats for the past 35 years.

Our people are the ones who have practical interest in the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula. We took the initiative to bring up the issue of denuclearization of the Korean peninsula at North-South high-level talks and presented reasonable proposals at the North-South Joint Nuclear Control Committee [JNCC]. We made many concessions and made sincere efforts to implement the joint declaration on denuclearization at the earliest possible date. This clearly shows our will for denuclearization.

However, even while babbling about North-South nuclear inspections, the South Korean authorities in reality have persistently opposed denuclearization. This has been clearly demonstrated during the JNCC meetings, when they have resolutely opposed inspection of the U.S. nuclear weapons and nuclear bases in South Korea; preposterously insisted on inspection of an equal number of targets, inspection of ordinary military bases, and even ad hoc inspections [tuksusachal], which run counter to the spirit of the joint declaration and are not contained in any agreement; and prevented progress in the dialogue and avoided holding meetings.

Moreover, conducting the Team Spirit nuclear war exercise totally rejects the joint denuclearization declaration. Denuclearization means removing nuclear weapons and the danger of nuclear war, and nuclear inspections are designed to verify whether or not there are nuclear weapons and nuclear bases.

They have babbled about the North's nonexistent nuclear development and are planning to openly conduct a nuclear war exercise against us. What in the world, then, does denuclearization mean, and why in the world are nuclear inspections necessary?

The South Korean authorities are planning to conduct the Team Spirit joint military exercise. They are doing so to aggravate tension, break up North-South dialogue, prevent the implementation of the documents of agreement, justify the eternal occupation of South Korea by the U.S. Forces and their maneuvers to turn South Korea into a nuclear base, cover up the South Korean authorities' maneuvers to build nuclear weapons, and gain something with the help of outside forces.

In its statement, the North side's delegation to the North-South high-level talks made it clear that it has no intention of begging for dialogue or resuming the dialogue between the authorities of the North and South, which had been suspended, because the South Korean authorities were deliberately leading the dialogue to collapse in collusion with outside forces. This is very just.

After their crime was loudly denounced at home and abroad, the South Korean authorities shamelessly tried to lay blame for the crime at someone else's door. This is shown in the fact that, instead of accepting our just demand, a spokesman for the South side's delegation to the North-South high-level talks recently asked us to come to the talks, absurdly acting as if we were the reason the talks between the authorities had been suspended. This is truly stupid of the spokesman. The announcement was made that the Team Spirit nuclear war exercise for northward aggression would be resumed, which has broken up the dialogue. However, he does not know why the talks have broken up. This shows how busy he is kicking up nuclear war commotions.

No matter what sophistry they may utter, the South Korean rulers will not be able to justify resumption of the criminal Team Spirit joint military exercise nor escape from their responsibility for having broken up all the North-South dialogues.

History and the fellow countrymen will not forgive the aggressors and traitors for challenging justice. The South Korean authorities must apologize to their fellow countrymen for having committed various antinational, antipeace, and antireunification crimes in collusion with outside forces and stop the provocative Team Spirit nuclear war commotions for northward invasion.

### Daily: ROK Must Break With Sixth Republic

*SK0302234893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2236 GMT 3 Feb 93*

["Chief Culprits of 'Sixth Republic' Irregularities Must Be Brought to Justice"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, February 3 (KCNA)—If a "civilian government" is to be established and "civilian politics" enforced in South Korea, determined measures should be taken to break with the outdated "Sixth Republic" and clear away its wrongdoings, NODONG SINMUN says in a signed article today.

However, the upper crust of the "Democratic Liberal Party [DLP]" has repeated only in words its commitments to "civilian politics" and "politics different from the Sixth Republic's", showing no sign of breaking with the "Sixth Republic," it says, and goes on:

On the contrary, the "president-elect," when he met with the present ruler, No Tae-u, some time ago, said he would seek "stability rather than change" when he took over, without mentioning the "reform" to which he had committed himself in the "election campaign."

A "civilian government" failing to break with the "Sixth Republic," and a "civilian politics" evading liquidation of its irregularities are sham.

It is well worth recalling how many crimes the "Sixth Republic regime" has committed in all spheres of social life, politics, the economy and culture, and how many frauds and scandals it has practised.

A South Korean newspaper said more than 30 extra-large scandals have been reported during the five years of the outgoing "Sixth Republic," compared to 25 recorded under the 18-year-long pak jung hi "regime" and to another 25 during the seven years of Chon Tu-hwan's "Fifth Republic."

The present ruler has not only taken the lead in committing swindles by abusing "government" power but committed irregularities involving his relatives one after another.

Nevertheless, the ruling force of the "DLP," far from breaking with the military fascist force of the "Sixth Republic," are bringing them into the new "regime," while talking about "civilian government" and advertising "civilian politics" without any measure to get rid of the injustices of the "Sixth Republic." This is a deception and mockery of the people.

Should the "president-elect" of South Korea intend to shape "civilian politics," he should declare breakaway with the military fascist force of the "Sixth Republic." And he should call a "hearing on the Sixth Republic's wrongdoings" and bring the present ruler No Tae-u, the chief culprit of the irregularities of the "Sixth Republic," to justice and, at the same time, lay bare the truth behind the crimes committed by the military fascist group of the "DLP" and the "administration," his accomplices, and mete out deserving punishment to them.

### Overseas Koreans on Withdrawal of Nuclear Weapons

*SK0502110393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1016 GMT 5 Feb 93*

[Text] Tokyo, February 3 (KNS-KCNA)—The Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean residents in Japan (Chongnyon) made public a statement on February 1 denouncing the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean anti-national elements for persistently working to provoke a nuclear war against the northern half of Korea.

The U.S. invariable policy of making South Korea a nuclear base and its nuclear armament under the aegis of the United States are an undisguised nuclear blackmail against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, a non-nuclear state, and a criminal act intended to threaten peace in Asia and impose a disaster of nuclear war on this region, the statement said, and continued:

The United States should recant the mode of thinking of cold war era to threaten our country by nukes, openly and completely withdraw nuclear weapons from South Korea in conformity with the worldwide trend demanding denuclearisation, and discard at once the plan to stage the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises, a nuclear war rehearsal.

The South Korean authorities should not seek the North-South confrontation and aggravation of tension, following the nuclear strategy of the United States, but accept the overall inspection of the U.S. nuclear bases and give up the development of nuclear weapons that has been promoted in top secrecy, for the implementation of the joint declaration on the denuclearisation.

### Commentator Reviews World Situation for Jan

*SK0602060093 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1146 GMT 30 Jan 93*

[By station commentator Kim Ho-sam: "Old Policy of Strength and Stance of Confrontation"]

[Text] The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught us:

Although the imperialists rave about the end of the cold war and the advent of the peaceful era, the international situation is still strained and complicated. Acute confrontation and struggle between socialism and imperialism and progressive and reactionary camps continues. Imperialists are more openly pursuing their ambition to increase dominion over the entire world. As a result, the people's independent cause faces a grave challenge.

First, one month has passed since we greeted the new year. With the onset of the new year, the people have renewed hope that peace and stability will take hold throughout the world in 1993. The world situation in January, however, failed to give the people a satisfactory and positive answer to this because the imperialists and all forms of reactionary force in collusion with them have taken the stance of confrontation while trying to maintain and increase their dominion over the world, running counter to the flow of the era, and clinging to their old policy of strength.

Asia particularly attracted the world people's attention during January. Of all the regions in Asia, Northeast Asia witnessed many incidents and events which astonished the people. This is particularly true of the situation on the Korean peninsula.

As everyone knows, the U.S. authorities and the South Korean puppets agreed in Washington, the U.S. capital, in October 1992, to resume the Team Spirit joint military exercise that was suspended in 1992 in 1993 under the pretext of our nonexistent nuclear suspicion. Our people and the world's peace-loving people strongly protested and denounced the U.S. imperialists' and the South Korean puppets' criminal maneuver and demanded their immediate withdrawal of their decision to resume the unreasonable joint military exercise. The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets, however, ignored the unanimous demand of the world and officially announced on 26 January that they would conduct the Team Spirit-93 joint military exercise without fail. This is an intolerable and vicious challenge to the people of our country and the world who want detente and peace.

The U.S. imperialists' maneuver rapidly plunged the Korean peninsula into a situation of confrontation before dialogue. The U.S. imperialists are actually moving naval vessels that are to be mobilized for the Team Spirit-93 joint military exercise in accordance with their plan for criminal war exercise. MAINICHI SHIMBUN announced that a large aircraft carrier "Independence" based in Yokosuka, Japan would participate in the Team Spirit-93 joint military exercise. Destroyers, frigates, also arrived in Sasebo in time for the Team Spirit joint military exercise. Furthermore, we can not fathom the fact that aerial war exercises aimed at invading our Republic have been more viciously conducted in South Korea during the past month with the full-fledged Team Spirit-93 joint military exercise at hand. Since its announcement on conducting the Team Spirit-93 joint military exercise, the U.S. imperialists have mobilized some 10 reconnaissance planes everyday to perpetrate aerial espionage acts on the northern half of the Republic.

With the onset of the new year, the U.S. imperialists have mobilized mainly strategic and tactical reconnaissance planes, and Airborne Warning and Control System planes to conduct aerial espionage acts on our Republic at least 210 times. More details on these acts show that U-2 high-altitude strategic reconnaissance planes had performed espionage acts about 300 times during January and that RV-2 high-altitude tactical reconnaissance planes had committed espionage acts about 90 times during January, 20 times more than those conducted during December 1992. A total of 300 fighter-bombers, assault planes, and observation planes were mobilized for an aerial war exercise to invade the North, which was conducted in the sky over South Korea throughout 28 January.

What we cannot consider to be serious is the fact that that day, approximately 200 assault planes of various types that took off from military bases in Japan and the Pacific flew to the skies over the areas of operations in South Korea after being refueled in the air at designated points in the sky. This is an exercise designed to improve the strike capability and enhance the capability for aerial joint command of various planes which will participate in the Team Spirit-93 joint military exercise.

As you see, the U.S. imperialists are conducting war exercises in a very grave stage. There is no guarantee that these war exercises will not develop into actual combat. As a matter of fact, the situation on the Korean peninsula shows that a new war may break out anytime. With this situation on the Korean peninsula in mind, Ackerman, newly elected chairman of the Asian and Pacific Affairs Subcommittee of the U.S. House Foreign Affairs Committee, said that the United States would continuously interfere on the Korean peninsula and other areas of Asia militarily, and new U.S. President Clinton said that he would not withdraw U.S. forces from South Korea. The situation in January shows that because of their perception of the Cold War era, the intensification of tension on the Korean peninsula has not stopped and the situation has only been escalated into confrontation.

Another noteworthy event in the situation in January is that Japan has been seeking to become a nuclear and military power and has been further accelerating its maneuvers for overseas expansion. As has already been reported, the Japanese Defense Agency asked the government to allocate over 4.717 trillion yen for defense expenditures in fiscal year 1993. It later asked the government to add another 11 billion yen. Then, the total amount, the largest sum ever allocated for military expenditure since the war, was approved. In this way, the Japanese authorities have allocated this massive amount of money for military expenditure and accelerated its drive to become a military power and a nuclear power.

As has been reported, the "Akatsuki-Maru" left Japan last August for France, returned to Japan on 5 January loaded with 1.7 tons of plutonium, cast its anchor at Tokai port, Ibaraki Prefecture, and unloaded the plutonium. Foreign news media say that 1.7 tons of plutonium is enough to manufacture as many as 150 bombs with destructive power equal to the atomic bomb that destroyed Nagasaki during World War II. They also predict that Japan would accumulate 400 tons of plutonium over the next 30 years. Moreover, Japan has continuously built up its Self-Defense Forces to become a military power. It is planning to deploy an additional 20 ultramodern 90-type [as heard] tanks to the 7th Division of the Ground Self-Defense Force in Chitose, Hokkaido, and add cruisers armed with missiles, submarines, and large transport ships to the Maritime Self-Defense Force. It is also planning to equip the antiaircraft force of the Self-Defense Forces in Fukuoka with Patriot missiles. While accelerating the military buildup in this way, the Japanese Government has recently adopted a decision to send the peacekeeping forces to countries of dispute even before the United Nations' so-called request.

On 2 February, Japanese Foreign Minister Watanabe openly demanded a revision of the current law which limits the roles of the Self-Defense Forces—which are mobilized for UN peacekeeping missions—to those of launching noncombat missions. All of the events that took place in Japan this month show how reckless a road the Japanese reactionaries are rushing along today to fulfill their ambition for overseas expansion.

Also, in the international arena, this month, the multinational forces led by the United States launched attack operations against Iraq, an event that gravely worried people of the world. Under U.S. leadership, U.S., British, and French military planes struck Iraq on several occasions for the first time after the Persian Gulf war in 1991. As a result, Iraq suffered significant human and material damage.

The United States, Britain, and France militarily attacked Iraq under the pretext of implementing the UN resolution. In connection with this, many countries of the world, including Arab countries, have demanded that disputes be resolved peacefully with dialogue and negotiations, not with force of arms.

All these facts that took place in the international arena in January do not show the imperialists' boldness but their weakness. The imperialists still consider strength to be omnipotent and persistently adhere to the policy of strength. However, they will not be able to fulfill their ambition in that way.

The more persistently the imperialists adhere to the policy of confrontation and strength, the more protest and denunciation they will face from the peace-loving people of the world, and the more they will be lead into a corner.

## Former Japanese Chairman Meets Chongnyon Leaders

*SK3001121593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1021 GMT 30 Jan 93*

[Text] Tokyo, January 28 [date as received] (KNS-KCNA)—Makoto Tanabe, former chairman of the Central Executive Committee of the Japan Social-Democratic Party, paid a visit to the Korean Hall here on January 27.

He was met by Chairman Han Tok-su, First Vice-chairman Yi Chin-kyu and Vice-Chairman Ho Chong-man of the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) and others.

Makoto Tanabe said on the occasion that he would make sustaining efforts for an early normalization of diplomatic relations between Japan and the DPRK in the future, too, in accordance with the three-party joint declaration.

## 'Full Text' of Free Economic, Trade Zone Law

*SK0602120593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1112 GMT 6 Feb 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, February 6 (KCNA)—The law of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on the free economic and trade zone was adopted according to the decision of the Standing Committee of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly No. 28, dated January 31, 1993.

The full text of the law follows:

### Law on Free Economic and Trade Zone of DPRK

### Chapter 1. General Provisions

Article 1. The purpose of this law is to expand and promote external economic cooperation and exchange by establishing and effectively administering and operating a free economic and trade zone in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Article 2. The free economic and trade zone is a certain part of the territory of the DPRK which has been declared a zone of preferential trade, transit transportation, processing of export goods, financing and services. The free economic and trade zone is under the sovereignty of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Economic and trade activities in the zone shall be conducted in accordance with the system and order specially established by the state.

Article 3. The state shall direct development and administration of the free economic and trade zone through the external economic affairs commission of the DPRK and the free economic and trade zone authority.

Article 4. The state shall protect by law the capital invested and the incomes earned by the investors and their vested rights in the free economic and trade zone.

Article 5. An investor shall have free choice of forms of business management and operations in the free economic and trade zone.

Article 6. All activities in the free economic and trade zone shall conform to the laws and regulations of the DPRK for the zone. Any matter not covered in the provisions of the laws and regulations for the zone shall be subject to the relevant laws and regulations of the DPRK.

Article 7. Koreans residing outside the territory of the DPRK may conduct business and trade activities in the free economic and trade zone in accordance with this law.

## Chapter 2. Powers and Duties of the Administrative Organs

Article 8. The administrative organs of the free economic and trade zone shall include the External Economic Affairs Commission and the zone authority.

The External Economic Affairs Commission is the central executive organ authorized for the development and economic administration and operation of the free economic and trade zone, and the zone authority is the local executive organ.

Article 9. The powers and duties of the external economic affairs commission are: 1. To adopt measures for the development and economic management and operation of the zone, based on state policies; 2. To review and direct at regular intervals economic administrative and operational activities in the zone; and 3. To examine and approve applications for investment in a project with a total investment of more than 10 million won and in an infrastructure development project with a total investment of more than 20 million won.

Article 10. Upon receiving an application for investment through the zone authority, the External Economic Affairs Commission shall examine the application after consulting with competent organs such as the State Planning Commission, the State Commission of Science and Technology, the Ministry of Finance and the State Construction Commission, and notify the zone authority of the results of the examination.

Article 11. The zone authority shall organize and execute the development and economic administrative and operational activities in the free economic and trade zone. The zone authority shall comprise the administrative and economic departments, and the external economic departments in charge of activities related to foreign investment.

Article 12. The powers and duties of the zone authority are: 1. To carry out administrative and economic activities, including population administration and city management; 2. To maintain social order and to protect people and property; 3. To prepare, advertise and implement the zone development plan; 4. To receive all applications for investment, and to examine and approve projects valued up to 20 million won in total investment in infrastructural construction and those valued up to 10 million won in other domains; 5. To register enterprises and issue business licences; 6. To assist investors in employing workers; 7. To transfer land and buildings by leasing or by other forms; 8. To render direct or indirect construction or reconstruction services for buildings, structures and work facilities; and 9. To conduct other activities for the promotion of investment and development in the zone and the improvement of management operations.

Article 13. The External Economic Affairs Commission and the zone authority shall reach a decision on the approval or rejection of the establishment of an enterprise within 50 days in case of an application for investment in contractual joint ventures and equity joint ventures, and within 80 days in case of foreign-funded enterprises.

Investments in a project that may harm the security of the country, the health of people and the growth of animals and plants, or in a project that does not conform with the antipollution requirements specified by the state, or in a project that is economically and technically backward, or in a project that is wanting in economic efficiency may be prohibited or restricted.

Article 14. The External Economic Affairs Commission and the zone authority may cancel their approval for the establishment of an enterprise or of a licence for operation, or may halt operations in the following cases: 1. When there is a failure to comply with the conditions for investment; and 2. When there is a serious breach of the laws of the DPRK.

Article 15. For the purpose of the improvement of the standard of workers to be employed in foreign-invested enterprises, the zone authority shall establish a technical training fund and operate a training centre.

Article 16. The zone authority may form an advisory committee which shall be formed with representatives of the zone authority, the relevant organization or enterprise and of the foreign investors, and which shall discuss and assist in the development and the administration and operation of the zone.

## Chapter 3. Creation of Conditions for Economic Activities

Article 17. All goods may be freely brought into the free economic and trade zone and may be stored, taken in trust, processed, assembled, disassembled, sorted, packed or repaired in the zone or may be carried abroad from the free economic and trade zone. Any goods that harm the security and social and moral life of the country, the health of people and the growth of animals and plants is not allowed to be brought into the zone.

Article 18. A foreign investor may invest, and establish and operate an enterprise in the free economic and trade zone. Domestic organizations, enterprises and entities may also invest in the zone both solely or in the form of equity joint venture or contractual joint venture with a foreign investor, with the approval of the state.

Article 19. A foreign-invested enterprise and a domestic organization, enterprise or entity may establish a branch, an agency or a liaison office in the free economic and trade zone for the purpose of conducting economic and trade activities.

Article 20. A foreign-invested enterprise and a foreigner may acquire on lease the land it needs in the free economic and trade zone, and the period of the lease may be extended with the consent of the leasing entity.

Article 21. A foreign-invested enterprise may employ the workers it needs or dismiss them in accordance with a contract concluded with the labour service agency in the zone.

A foreign-invested enterprise may apply to the labour service agency in the zone for the provision of local technicians and highly skilled workers from outside the zone or may employ foreigners, such as management personnel, technicians and skilled workers of special trades upon agreement with the External Economic Department of the zone authority.

Article 22. The prices of goods in the zone may be set by agreement between buyer and seller. The prices of certain mass consumption goods shall be fixed by the state.

Article 23. The trade ports in the free economic and trade zone are open to any cargo ship and crewman for free movement in and out, regardless of nationality.

Article 24. A foreign-invested enterprise in the free economic and trade zone may consign the processing of raw materials, materials or parts to a domestic enterprise outside the zone. When the processing performed outside the zone is less than 40 percent of the total value of production of the enterprise concerned, such processing on consignment shall be regarded as production activities conducted within the zone.

## Chapter 4. Customs Duties

Article 25. The state shall establish a system of preferential customs duties in the free economic and trade zone.

Article 26. No customs duties shall be levied on the following goods in the free economic and trade zone: 1. Goods brought into the zone for processing and export; 2. Materials needed for the production and operation of enterprises, and export products; 3. Certain quantities of materials for the personal needs and stationaries [as received] for the investors; 4. Materials needed for the construction of the zone; 5. Trading cargo of other countries passing through the zone.

Article 27. Article 26 of this law shall not be applicable in the following cases: 1. When goods are imported from foreign countries for sale in the free economic and trade zone; and 2. When goods produced in the zone or imported into the zone are sent to other parts of the country for sale.

Article: 28. When a foreign-invested enterprise sells its products in the zone instead of exporting them, customs duties on the imported raw materials and parts used in the production of goods shall be paid.

Article 29. An enterprise in the free economic and trade zone shall keep documents concerning the import and export of goods such as the records of customs inspection and invoices for goods for a period of five years.

## Chapter 5. Currency and Finance

Article 30. The currency in circulation in the free economic and trade zone shall be Korean won, and payment for all transactions may be made either in Korean won or in a convertible foreign currency.

Foreign currencies shall be exchanged with the Korean won at the rate published by the Foreign Exchange Control Agency.

Article 31. A foreign-invested enterprise may keep an account at a domestic bank or a foreign bank upon agreement with the Foreign Exchange Administration Organization.

Article 32. A foreign-invested enterprise or a foreigner may secure loans to meet financial needs for business operations from financial organs of Korea and other countries.

Korean currency secured either by loan and won bought by foreign currency shall be deposited in a bank in the country.

Article 33. Banks in the free economic and trade zone may, with the consent of the Foreign Exchange Control Agency, take charge of offshore banking transactions.

Article 34. A foreign-invested enterprise or a foreigner may deal with foreign exchange securities through a fixed place established in the free economic and trade zone.

## Chapter 6. Guarantees and Privileges

Article 35. A foreign investor may remit abroad profits earned in his business activities in the free economic and trade zone and other incomes such as interest, dividends, income from rent, and income from services, proceeds from the sale of assets, and may take out of the country without restriction the assets which had been brought into it, when the duration of operation expires.

Article 36. The business income tax rate in the free economic and trade zone shall be 14 percent of taxable income.

Article 37. A foreign-invested enterprise in the production sector may be entitled to full exemption from business income tax for three years after the first profit-making year and a tax reduction of up to 50 percent for the following two years, provided it has been operated for a duration of more than 10 years.

A foreign-invested enterprise engaged in infrastructure development projects with a total investment of more than 60 million won may be given full exemption from business income tax for four years after the first profit-making year and a tax reduction of up to 50 percent for the following three years.

Article 38. Investors in the sector encouraged by the state may be treated preferentially in the leasing of land in favourable places at lower rates of rent.

Article 39. Investors in the sectors encouraged by the state may be given priority in the granting of loans for business activities from the finance institute of the host country.

Article 40. If a foreign investor reinvests his profits for the duration of five years or more, 50 percent of the income tax paid on the reinvested amount may be refunded. In the case of reinvestment for infrastructure development, 100 percent of the income tax paid on the reinvested amount may be refunded.

Article 41. The state shall grant visa-free entry to the foreigners directly coming to the free economic and trade zone.

### Chapter 7. Settlement of Disputes

Article 42. Any dispute arising in the course of economic activities in the free economic and trade zone shall be settled through negotiations between the parties concerned.

Article 43. A case of dispute shall be settled by a court of law or an arbitration body of the Democrtic People's Republic of Korea, in accordance with the relevant procedures, or may be brought to arbitration of a third country.

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## 'Full Text' of Foreign Exchange Control Law

*SK0602110893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1031 GMT 6 Feb 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, February 6 (KCNA)—The law of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on foreign exchange control was adopted by Decision No. 27 of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, dated January 31, 1993.

The full text of the law reads:

### The Law of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on Foreign Exchange Control

### Chapter 1. General Provisions

Article 1. The purposes of the law of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on the foreign exchange control are to contribute to the steady development of the national economy by increasing the foreign exchange revenue and effectively using foreign currencies and to expand the external economic relations of the country.

Article 2. This law stipulates the principles and procedures of foreign exchange operations, the issue of foreign exchange securities, and the import and export of foreign currencies in cash, securities and precious metals.

Article 3. Foreign exchange includes convertible foreign currencies, state bonds, foreign securities and other convertible company bonds, instruments of foreign exchange such as drafts, cheques, transferable bank deposit certificates or notes and other foreign exchange instruments and precious metals including gold, silver and platinum, excepting decorative articles, as well as gold and silver coins exchanged on international financial markets.

Article 4. The state controls and administers foreign exchange transactions on the territory of the DPRK through the Foreign Exchange Control Agency.

Article 5. The specialised bank for foreign exchange transactions in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is the Foreign Trade Bank. Other banks may engage in foreign exchange transactions with the approval of the Foreign Exchange Control Agency.

Article 6. A foreign currency in cash may not be circulated within the territory of the DPRK. A foreign currency in cash must be converted into Korean won if it is to be used. Buying, selling, depositing and mortgaging of foreign exchange may be done only through a bank authorised to conduct foreign exchange transactions.

Article 7. The exchange rate for the Korean won shall be fixed by the Foreign Exchange Administration organization.

Article 8. The Foreign Exchange Control Agency decides which foreign currencies may be used in the settlement of payment between the DPRK and other countries. A foreign currency other than those specified currency may be used for the settlement of payments, with the approval of the Foreign Exchange Control Agency.

Article 9. Foreign exchange earned legally within the territory of the DPRK shall be protected by law and may be inherited.

Article 10. This law shall be applied to the domestic organizations, enterprises, entities and citizens of the DPRK, as well as to foreign organizations, foreign-invested enterprises, foreign investors and foreigners and Koreans residing outside the territory of the DPRK that use foreign currencies within the territory of the DPRK.

### Chapter 2. Use of Foreign Exchange

Article 11. Foreign exchange may be used in the following transactions;

1. Payment in accordance with trade contracts or payment agreements,

2. Payment in non-trade transactions,

3. The buying or selling of Korean won at a bank,

4. Capital transactions.

Article 12. Payment in foreign economic transactions shall be settled in such ways as remittance, payment claim or payment order.

Article 13. Foreign exchange earnings by domestic organizations, enterprises and other entities in the country shall be converted into Korean won and deposited in a bank account. Foreign exchange shall be used only for the approved purposes and items.

Article 14. If any domestic organization or enterprise in the country intends to issue foreign exchange securities, permission must be obtained from the competent agency.

Article 15. Citizens of the DPRK may possess foreign currencies only within the amount specified by the state, and the remainder shall be sold or deposited in a domestic bank.

Article 16. A foreign individual may deposit or sell foreign exchange legally earned or remitted from abroad to a domestic bank of Korea.

Article 17. Banks shall keep secrecy concerning foreign exchange deposits and pay appropriate interest on such deposits.

Article 18. Foreign agencies such as embassies, consulates and trade missions operating in the territory of the DPRK shall keep an account at the Foreign Trade Bank. A foreign-invested enterprise may open an account at a domestic bank of Korea with the approval of the Foreign Exchange Control Agency. Such an enterprise may open an account at a bank in a foreign country with the approval of the Foreign Exchange Control Agency.

Article 19. A bank in the free economic and trade zone may engage in offshore banking transactions, with the approval of the Foreign Exchange Control Agency.

Article 20. A foreign-invested enterprise may secure a loan from the domestic bank in the country to meet foreign exchange requirements for its operation.

Article 21. Supervision of the use of foreign exchange shall be conducted by the Foreign Exchange Control Agency or the competent supervision and control offices. An organization, enterprise or entity using foreign exchange shall submit quarterly and annual foreign exchange balance sheets to the Foreign Exchange Control Agency.

### Chapter 3. Import and Export of Foreign Exchange

Article 22. Foreign exchange in cash, foreign exchange securities and precious metals may be brought into the country without limit.

Article 23. Foreign exchange in cash may be taken out of the territory of the DPRK in amounts not exceeding the amounts specified in the foreign exchange certificates issued by the bank or in the declaration made to the customs office when entering the country.

Article 24. Foreign exchange securities may be removed from the territory of the DPRK only with the permission of the Foreign Exchange Control Agency. Foreign exchange securities declared to the customs office when they were brought into the country may be taken out, without permission being sought.

Article 25. In the free economic and trade zone, foreign exchange in cash or securities may be removed from the territory of the DPRK without reference to the related documents or customs declarations.

Article 26. Precious metals may be taken out of the territory of the DPRK only with the permission of the central bank. Precious metals brought into the country may be taken out only within the limit of the amounts declared to the customs office.

Article 27. A foreign investor may remit abroad all profits earned in his or her business activities and other income without tax or may transfer capital without limit.

Article 28. A foreigner working at a foreign-invested enterprise may remit abroad or carry out of the DPRK up to 60 percent of his or her total salary earnings or of other legitimate foreign currency earnings.

### Chapter 4. Penalties

Article 29. Fines shall be imposed on any person who is charged with the breach of the foreign exchange handling regulations according to the extent of the breach, and foreign exchange or goods obtained in illegal transactions shall be confiscated. In case of need, such a person shall be suspended from having transactions with a bank.

Article 30. A loss of foreign exchange incurred due to a breach of the handling regulations may be compensated by the offender in foreign exchange.

Article 31. The responsible person of an organization, enterprise and entity and any citizen who commit a violation of this law, for which the consequences are severe, shall be subject to administrative or criminal penalties, according to the degrees of the violation.

## South Korea

### 'Sources': Russia To Observe Team Spirit-93

*SK0602065893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0640 GMT 6 Feb 93*

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 6 (YONHAP)—Russia is to send observers for the first time this year to the annual South Korea-U.S. military exercise "Team Spirit," government sources said Saturday.

Russia had yet to decide whether it would send an official government delegation from Moscow, but it was certain to at least send its military attache in Seoul, they said.

Russian Vice Foreign Minister Georgiy Kunadze, in response to North Korea's urgings during his Pyongyang visit this month that Moscow not participate in any form in Team Spirit, said that the decision was entirely up to Moscow, indicating its attendance at the military maneuver, the sources said.

A military attache had not yet been dispatched to Seoul when Team Spirit was last held, in 1991, and Russian officials have indicated there would not be any problem in having them attend Team Spirit, they said.

"It is true Moscow is prudently mulling sending a government delegation because it does not want to lose political leverage with Pyongyang," one source said. "But it is showing strong interest in watching Team Spirit."

Russia's participation is linked to an exchange visit by a South Korean delegation to Moscow's Pacific Fleet naval exercise around this August, according to the sources.

"On condition that Russia does come to Team Spirit, South Korea could send a delegation to the naval exercise as part of military exchanges and cooperation," said the source.

The Pacific Fleet naval exercises, held every other year, mobilize more than 10,000 people and about 20 submarines and warships.

Moscow invited Seoul to the naval exercises in 1991, but Seoul declined at the last minute due to uncertain U.S.-Russia relations then.

"Washington-Moscow relations have changed considerably since then, such as signing of the start treaty and other arms reduction talks," the source said.

### Kunadze Discusses DPRK-Russia Treaty

*SK0602061393 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 6 Feb 93 p 2*

[Report from Moscow by correspondent O Chung-sok]

[Text] Russia and North Korea do not seem to have agreed to revise the DPRK-Russia Friendship and Mutual Assistance Treaty. Instead, it seems that they will put an end to their military alliance by exchanging supplementary agreements narrowing the interpretation of the treaty.

This was said by Russian Vice Foreign Minister Kunadze on 4 February in his briefing to ROK Ambassador to Russia Hong Sun-yong on his recent visit to Pyongyang.

In his meeting with North Korean Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam and Vice Foreign Minister Kang Sok-chu, Kunadze stressed that the military pact between North Korea and Russia does not befit the current international situation and strongly proposed that the two sides exchange supplementary agreements narrowing the interpretation of a clause in the treaty, which defines the meaning of the North Korea-Russia military alliance.

Kunadze said that the North Korean representatives had listened to him without expressing any objection to his proposal. He assumed North Korea accepted Russia's proposal for the moment, judging from North Korea's traditional diplomatic practice.

Kunadze said that he invited North Korean Vice Foreign Minister Kang Sok-chu to visit Russia for discussions on contents of supplementary agreements and that Kang's visit would be arranged in the near future.

Kunadze also said he had persuaded North Korea to accept the International Atomic Energy Agency's nuclear inspection, thereby it could avoid being internationally isolated. However, North Korea clearly opposed it with an excuse that targets of the inspection are its military facilities.

### Kim Chong-il Reportedly To Visit PRC in Mar

*SK0702014693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0138 GMT 7 Feb 93*

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 7 (YONHAP)—North Korea's heir-apparent Kim Chong-il will visit China next month and meet with top Chinese officials, including President Yang Shangkun, government sources here said Sunday.

In his second visit to China since 1983, Kim will extensively discuss Seoul-Beijing normalization of ties on Aug. 24 last year, Pyongyang-Beijing relations, inter-Korean mutual nuclear inspection, and North Korea's policy on open economy with Chinese leaders, the sources said.

Chong-il, who awaits to succeed his father and North Korea's paramount leader Kim Il-song, hopes to upgrade his image and dignity by holding talks with Chinese heads, they said.

"It has been confirmed that the junior Kim would make a visit to China sometime in March through diplomatic channels," a government official said.

He added that Kim was likely to touch on the dire economic straits of North Korea and to seek advice from its communist ally. "Beijing is expected to have great impact on Pyongyang on the nuclear and open economy issues after Kim's visit," he observed.

## DPRK Inaction on Team Spirit Linked to Limits

*SK0602061493 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 6 Feb 93 p 5*

[Article by correspondent Pyok Wan-sik: "Why Does North Korea Not Take a Countermeasure to the Team Spirit Exercise?"]

[Text] The ROK and the United States announced 10 days ago that they would conduct the Team Spirit joint exercise. However, North Korea has not taken any countermeasure at all. This is noteworthy.

Experts say that this suggests a "significant change" when compared to North Korea's immediate reaction in 1991. At that time, North Korea conducted four air-raid drills and three brownout exercises during one month "in preparations against northward invasion," right after the ROK and the United States announced that they would conduct the exercise. It was predicted that North Korea would quite strongly react to the Team Spirit exercise given its previous strong measure taken in response to the exercise and given the crisis facing it caused by difficulties at home and abroad. It was so predicted because it is clear that the Team Spirit exercise is a practical "threat" to North Korea because the exercise will be resumed two years after it has been suspended, temporarily, and because it is more necessary than ever for the North Korean leadership to strengthen internal unity by inspiring a sense of crisis among the people.

However, North Korea has not so far taken any action but merely issued one statement denouncing the Team Spirit exercise after another.

In a statement issued on 29 January, the North side's delegation to the North-South high-level talks denounced the Team Spirit exercise using very strong words, saying: "A situation has been promoted on the Korean peninsula in which a very dangerous nuclear war may break out anytime." North Korea said that it would "take countermeasures." However, it merely rejected North-South dialogue and has not taken any "action." Experts say that North Korea would not issue an "order to achieve combat readiness" that it used to issue to the Korean People's Army, the Korean People's Security Forces, the Worker-Peasant Red Guards, and the Young Red Guards within one month after the announcement was made that the Team Spirit exercise would be conducted or that it may issue a lower-level order. They speculate that North Korea has changed its strategy because of unavoidable reasons. They say that one reason is that North Korea cannot conduct large-scale mobile exercises because of the grave energy crisis.

Another speculation is that North Korea has taken no action for practical reasons: Every time the Team Spirit exercises had been conducted since 1976, North Korea had conducted mobile exercises in response. In this process, North Korea suffered serious economic losses. Equipment and troops were redeployed massively for simulated war exercises. Troops working at construction sites and other places returned to the barracks. Rural areas had difficulties preparing for farming in the early spring. In this way, North Korea had tremendous difficulties in carrying out its economic development plan.

However, some other people say that such speculation is premature: They insist that North Korea feels truly threatened by the Team Spirit exercise and, therefore, will pay any price. They also say that, even though it may not conduct air-raid drills, North Korea, as they did before, will eventually issue an order to achieve combat readiness and conduct mobile exercises in a semi-war status, adding that the scale of those exercises may be curtailed in the meantime.

## North's Crude Steel Output Lags Behind South

*SK0802020893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0115 GMT 8 Feb 93*

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 8 (YONHAP)—North Korea's output of crude steel remained stagnant at 7 million tons last year, little changed from 1990 and just 25.1 percent of South Korea's production of 27.85 million tons, the Korea Iron and Steel Association (KOSA) [acronym as received] said Monday.

Because Romania, whose crude steel output topped North Korea's by 100,000 tons in 1991, saw production shrink to 5.33 million tons last year, North Korea moved up a rank to 21st in the world in 1992, KOSA said, quoting an International Iron and Steel Institute (IISI) report.

South Korea raised its output 7.1 percent, but remained sixth in the world.

North Korea uses just 71 percent of its estimated capacity of 11.25 million tons of steel a year as most of its 2.5 million-ton open-hearth furnaces are outdated, according to the IISI report using 1989 as the basic year.

The communist nation is able to produce 6 million tons at the Kimchack Iron Complex, 2.5 million tons at Hwanghae, 3 million tons at Chollima, 1.25 million tons at Chongjin, 750,000 tons at Songjin, and another 750,000 tons elsewhere. The 3 million-ton Taedong River Steel Complex is slated for completion in 1995.

The world total steel output shrank 3 percent to 710 million tons in 1992 due to the global recession.

But China boosted its output 13.7 percent to 80.2 million tons last year, gaining on the United States (83.1 million tons) in third place.

The Commonwealth of Independent States topped the list with an output of 111.2 million tons last year (down 16.2 percent over 1991), followed by Japan with 98.1 million tons (down 10.5 percent), the United States with 83.1 million tons (up 4.9 percent), China with 80.2 million tons (up 13.7 percent), Germany with 39.8 million tons (down 5.7 percent), South Korea with 27.85 million tons (up 7.1 percent), Italy with 24.8 million tons (down 0.9 percent), Brazil with 23.9 million tons (up 5.7 percent), India with 18.1 million tons (up 5.8 percent), and France with 17.9 million tons (down 2.6 percent).

## U.S. Charges May Cause Rise in Car Prices

*SK0802025893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0227 GMT 8 Feb 93*

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 8 (YONHAP)—South Korean automakers will have to to raise the prices of their exports to the United States once more if they are to avoid being included with dumping charges to be filed by U.S. automakers, the Korea Automobile Manufacturers' Association (KAMA) said Monday.

Another price increase, following one in July last year, would make Korean cars less competitive in their largest market, a KAMA spokesman warned.

General Motors, Ford and Chrysler, which are suffering from low sales and market loss, are to file lawsuits against foreign cars.

Japanese automakers have raised their prices. Nissan hiked them by 400-500 U.S. dollars on Feb. 2 and Toyota by 175 dollars average on Feb. 5.

But Korean automakers raised them marginally in July.

Hyundai Motor Co. lifted prices by 4 dollars for the Elantra (standard) to 8,999 dollars, 4 dollars for the four-door Excel to 7,699 dollars, 300 dollars for the Elantra (GLS) to 10,299 dollars, 279 dollars for the Sonata to 13,799 dollars, 200 dollars for the Scoupe to 10,199 dollars, and 100 dollars for the three-door Excel to 8,599 dollars.

Hyundai sold 108,000 cars in the U.S. market last year, accounting for 3.7 percent of total foreign car sales.

## Official Blames U.S. for Contaminated Wheat

*SK0802093093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0605 GMT 8 Feb 93*

[Text] Pusan, South Korea, Feb. 8 (YONHAP)—Negligence by U.S. officials was to blame for shipment of a cargo of contaminated wheat to Korea, a Pusan Quarantine Office official said Monday.

The quarantine office had examined the Oregon State Department of agriculture's check slip for the cargo, submitted by the Korea flour mills industrial association, a fraternity of wheat dealers, in protest against the test results, he said.

The slip said that the wheat had been tested and that it met the standards set by Korea's food sanitation law, but this was not true because the level of chemicals found in the wheat was 130 times the Korean standard, he said.

Neither Washington nor Oregon had provided Seoul with an official explanation, and if they lodged a protest Korea would rebut it, he said.

## Envoy to U.S. May Become National Security Head

*SK0802093393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0849 GMT 8 Feb 93*

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 8 (YONHAP)—Rumors abound that Ambassador to Washington Hyon Hong-chu is about to earn a top post in the new administration, backed by his unexpected second return home in less than two months.

Hyon, talked about as a formidable contender for director of the Agency for National Security Planning, is expected in Seoul Feb. 19 for a week-long stay, presumably to attend his son's wedding Feb. 20, but the question is why he is staying as long as a week when Seoul-Washington issues are at their peak with recent trade frictions like steel dumping charges.

The guess is he plans to stay for the inauguration Feb. 25 of President-elect Kim Yong-sam.

Hyon was the first ambassador to visit Seoul to brief Kim in late December.

He was ousted from domestic politics in April 1990, when he unexpectedly moved from legislation minister to the Foreign Ministry and was immediately sent abroad as ambassador to the United Nations.

The appointment proved to be only temporary, until then Ambassador to Washington Pak Tong-chin was called back to headquarters 10 months later.

## 1992 Trade Deficit With Japan Increases Over 1991

*SK0802014493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0051 GMT 8 Feb 93*

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 8 (YONHAP)—South Korea's trade deficit with Japan ballooned to 1.6 times its total trade deficit last year from 90.7 percent in 1991, government sources said Monday.

On a customs clearance basis, the deficit with Japan was 7.9 billion U.S. dollars last year, compared with Korea's total deficit of 4.92 billion dollars, on exports of 11.6 billion dollars and imports of 19.5 billion dollars.

The deficit with Japan was down 860 million dollars from 8.76 billion dollars in 1991, but the total deficit was a 4.74 billion-dollar improvement from 9.66 billion dollars, the sources said.

Korean goods were losing competitiveness in the Japanese market, analysts say.

In 1988, Korea was first among Asian trading rivals in exports to Japan, but last year it stood after China and Indonesia.

Last year, China's exports to Japan rose 19.2 percent over a year before while Thailand and Malaysia had growth rates of 13.2 percent and 1.2 percent, respectively.

Taiwan and Hong Kong posted export drops of 0.6 percent and 1 percent, but Korea marked a 6.1-percent decline.

In the Japanese import market last year, China accounted for 7.3 percent (up 0.6 percentage points from 1991), Taiwan, 4.1 percent (up 0.1 percentage points), Malaysia, 2.8 percent (up 0.1 percentage points), and Korea, 5 percent (down 0.2 percentage points).

## PRC Charged With Phosphoric Acid Dumping Duties

*SK0602061193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0315 GMT 6 Feb 93*

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 6 (YONHAP)—The government will slap anti-dumping duties on Chinese phosphoric acid ranging from 40.46 percent to 54.28 percent for three years from mid-February, a government spokesman said Saturday.

The decision was made Friday by economic ministers after the Korea Trade Commission proved that Chinese phosphoric acid was being dumped on the Korean market and damaging Korean industry, he said.

The trade commission imposed provisional punitive tariffs on the Chinese acid Oct. 27 last year based on a preliminary investigation after the Korea specialty chemical industry association filed a suit on behalf of Oriental Chemicals Industries Co. and Dong-bu Prayon Chemicals Co. in July.

Phosphoric acid is used for making food flavoring. China sells the acid here at 452,000 Won a ton, 148,000 Won below the local price.

Imports of Chinese phosphoric acid jumped an average 47.6 percent a year for two years, going to 10,176 tons in 1991 from 4,668 tons in 1989.

Sales of Korean acid dropped to 11,743 tons in 1991 from 11,846 tons in 1989 with market share falling to 52.6 percent from 64.5 percent and profit margins to 9.6 percent from 12.7 percent.

The tariff will take effect in mid-February, when a presidential decree on it is promulgated.

Meanwhile, the government put off the imposition of provisional countervailing tariffs on VTR ball-bearings from Thailand for two months until April 26 as the dumper, NMB Hi-Tech Bearing Thai Ltd., has promised to stop dumping.

## ROK Seeks Investment Guarantees With 10 Nations

*SK0702065793 Seoul YONHAP in English 0642 GMT 7 Feb 93*

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 7 (YONHAP)—South Korea hopes to strike investment guarantee agreements with Vietnam, India, Philippines, Brazil, Mexico, Guatemala, Chile, Argentina, Panama, and Algeria within this year, Foreign Ministry officials said Sunday.

Seoul will seek investment guarantee agreements with the developing countries to protect Korean companies making increasing advancement to them, officials said.

Korea's investment to the 10 developing countries was 304 million U.S. dollars last year, including 103 million dollars to Philippines.

Korea alreadly inked investment guarantee agreements with 29 countries, including the United States, Britain, and China, and has provisional agreements with Bolivia and Spain.

## Seoul Urges Asia To Work on Pollution Control

*SK0802014293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0025 GMT 8 Feb 93*

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 8 (YONHAP)—South Korea called on Northeast Asian countries to build together pollution and waste control and waste disposal mechanisms Monday.

Northeast Asia, the only area of the world without a proper regime for regional environment cooperation, should emphasize assessment and management of the environment and a concrete coordinating regime, Vice Foreign Minister No Chang-hui said.

Senior officials from South Korea, Japan, China, Russia and Mongolia will discuss environmental cooperation in Northeast Asia from Monday to Thursday in Seoul in the first regional meeting of its kind.

North Korea was invited, but did not attend.

Participants are hopeful of deciding on definitive projects during the Seoul conference, notably transfer of technology for minimizing energy waste.

"The challenges faced by our region range from underdevelopment and inadequate management to hasty industrialization and over-development," No said in his opening address to the conference.

"In the pursuit of sustainable development, the basic elements of our deliberations should be focused on how to assess and manage the environment as well as to identify a coordinating regime.

"Initial projects towards this goal could include training and technical assistance for capacity building," he said. "Furthermore, pollution and waste control mechanisms and development of coordinated guidelines for waste disposal, exchange of information and joint research activities deserve our particular attention."

## Foreign Inventors Demand 'Millions' in Royalties

*SK0802032993 Seoul YONHAP in English 0245 GMT 8 Feb 93*

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 8 (YONHAP)—Foreign inventors are demanding thousands of millions of U.S. dollars in royalties from South Korean electronics and semiconductor companies, industry sources said Monday.

Samsung Electronics Co., Goldstar Co., and Goldstar Electron Co. have been negotiating licensing terms with Gerome Lemelson since last autumn and recently agreed to pay around 21 million dollars to the American inventor.

Daewoo Electronics Co. and Hyundai Electronics Co. have yet to agree on terms with Lemelson, who is likely to claim royalties from small- and medium-sized companies next, the sources said.

Lemelson is demanding royalties for 250 technologies, including computer image analysis and camcorders, either in lump sums or as payment on 0.3 percent of exports to the United States between 1986 and 1995.

Other foreign patentees, including Gilbert Hyatt, have applied for payments from major Korean electronics companies.

## DLP Begins Work on Government Reorganization

*SK0802092993 Seoul YONHAP in English 0554 GMT 8 Feb 93*

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 8 (YONHAP)—The Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] on Monday began to work on a government reorganization plan involving the Sports and Youth and the Energy and Resources ministries.

At the session, attended by Chong Mun-hwa, vice minister of Government Administration, the party discussed detailed plans for the Education Ministry to absorb the Sports and Youth Ministry and for the Trade and Industry Ministry to take over the Energy and Resources Ministry, sources said.

Pak Hui-tae, spokesman of the party, said, however, no final decision was made on the government reorganization plans.

The administration of President-elect Kim Yong-sam would study government reorganization and make a "rational adjustment" within one year, Pak said.

Meanwhile, Kim's government transition committee will report to the president-elect Wednesday on measures to wipe out official corruption and revitalize the country's economy.

The committee plans to recommend to Kim that he make "an anti-corruption declaration" at his first press conference after his inauguration on Feb. 25, a committee official said, requesting anonymity.

In his declaration, Kim is expected to stress the importance of senior government officials setting examples and urge high-ranking officials to voluntarily disclose their assets and those of their direct family members even before the government enacts a law requiring them to do so, the official said.

## Formal Charges Filed Against Chong Chu-yong

*SK0602071693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0614 GMT 6 Feb 93*

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 6 (YONHAP)—Embezzlement and presidential election law violation charges were formally filed against Chong Chu-yong, Hyundai group founder and head of the United People's Party, by the Seoul district prosecutor's office on Saturday.

The indictment effectively ended the prosecution's probe into Chong's involvement in use of a Hyundai Heavy Industries Co. slush fund to support his presidential bid.

The prosecution opened the investigation following revelations Dec. 5 by Chong Yun-ok, a clerk in the financial section of the company, of fiscal wrongdoing.

The prosecution said Chong had ordered top management of Hyundai heavy industries to set up the secret slush fund.

Management raised 66.7 billion won (83.69 million U.S. dollars) through the manipulation of vessel export receipts, prosecution officials said.

Chong used 50.9 billion won to finance the founding of his party and his election campaign.

"In fairness to other people involved in the case, we ought to have put Chong under arrest, but we are dealing with him without physical restraint for various reasons," a prosecution official said. The reasons are his position as head of an opposition party and a former presidential candidate, his age (78) and his contributions to the Korean economy.

Chong is only the second opposition party head to be prosecuted in Korea.

In August 1989, Kim Tae-chung, then head of the party for peace and democracy, was indicted in connection with Rep. So Kyong-won's illegal visit to North Korea. The charge was that he did not report So's visit to the law enforcement authorities as required by the national security law.

If Chong is found guilty and fined more than 1 million won or sentenced to prison, he automatically loses his assembly seat.

## Service Sector Employment Increases in 1992

*SK0802030493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0238 GMT 8 Feb 93*

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 8 (YONHAP)—Manufacturing jobs declined last year but service sector employment increased, the National Statistical Office (NSO) said Monday.

NSO said 18,921,000 people had jobs last year, up 1.9 percent from a year earlier compared with 2.9 percent in 1991.

Unemployment swelled 6.4 percent to 464,000 average from the previous year, edging up 0.1 percentage point to 2.4 percent.

The economically-active population numbered 19,384,000, up 2 percent from 1991, accounting for 60.9 percent of the population aged 15 or above, up 0.3 percentage points from 1991.

Employees in the agriculture, forestry and fisheries dropped 2.5 percent to 3,025,000 and those in mining and manufacturing industry, 3.5 percent to 4,828,000.

Workforce in the manufacturing industry shrank 3.4 percent to 4, 768,000 last year.

Workers in tertiary industry, including the service sector, increased 5.7 percent to 11,068,000 last year, surpassing the 11 million-level for the first time.

By sector, employees in construction rose 7.1 percent to 1,652,000; those in wholesale and retail, 4 percent to 4,244,000; those in service jobs, 7.1 percent to 2,972,000; and others, 6.3 percent to 2,200,000.

The tertiary industry took 58.5 percent of all employment last year, up 2.1 percentage points; agriculture, forestry and fisheries, 16 percent, down 0.2 points; and mining and manufacturing, 25.5 percent, down 1.4 points.

Manufacturing industry employees represented 25.2 percent last year, down 1.3 percentage points.

An NSO official said that employment growth slowed due to the overall economic slump, adding that factory automation to reduce labor costs was playing the main role in cutting manpower in the manufacturing sector.

## Biomedical Firm Develops 'Superior' Growth Hormone

*SK070201[illegible]93 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 7 Feb 93 [illegible] 3*

[By staff correspondent Sin Hak-nim]

[Text] Human growth hormone has been produced in yeast through a DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) recombinant method by a Korean biotechnology center, researchers announced yesterday.

The human growth hormone (HGH) product, branded as "Eutropin," developed by the Lucky Biotech Research Center affiliated with Lucky Ltd., will be on the market soon.

"Clinical tests of Eutropin showed that it is cheaper and superior to other similar products developed by foreign countries," a senior researcher of the center claimed.

Three-phase clinical tests have been conducted on 100 patients suffering from dwarfism aged from seven to 13 at four hospitals since 1989. After being treated with the growth hormone, those children grew 8 centimeters in height on average per year, compared with 3 centimeters before the treatment.

Few side-effects of the new HGH product were observed in the clinical tests, they said.

Four foreign products of the same sort are on sale here. Thousands of people are estimated to be suffering from a deficiency of growth hormone in Korea but only about 200 of them are treated with the foreign-made products because of their high price.

Imported human growth hormone products sell at some 96,000 won per vial on the average, but the price of Eutropin is about half the prices of foreign-made ones, Lucky officials said.

The treatment of one patient with the foreign-made medicine costs about 270,000 to 320,000 won per week.

This year, the importation of foreign products is expected to reach 2 million U.S. dollars. About 600 million U.S. dollar worth of growth hormone products were sold throughout the world last year.

Growth hormone products have been widely used in the treatment of children with growth hormone deficiency since a leading U.S. biotechnology company, Genetech Inc., succeeded in the synthesis of it for the first time in the world.

"Genentech Inc. and other biotech companies produce the growth hormone by the use of Escherichia coli (bacteria inhabiting the intestine). But Eutropin is synthesized in the yeast for the first time in the world," said a senior of the Lucky research team.

He went on, "Therefore, Eutropin proved more effective and purer than foreign-made products." The Lucky-made product is expected to replace the imported ones.

Recent studies show that the human growth hormone may also be used in the treatment of sterile women and in reversing some effects of aging.

## Burma

### Reportage on National Convention Proceedings

### Panel Discussions Continue

*BK0502130593 Rangoon Burma Television Network in Burmese 1330 GMT 4 Feb 93*

[Text] The panel discussions by eight groups of delegates to the National Convention continued in the respective meeting halls this morning on the Kyaikkasan Grounds, Yangon [Rangoon]. In today's panel discussions, the groups of delegates discussed writing a report on suggestions made by delegates concerning the chapter headings that should be included in drafting the state constitution.

The panel discussion by delegates from the political parties continued in Meeting Hall No. 5 at 1000 this morning. It was presided over by the alternate chairman, U Saw Philip alias U Philip San from the Wa National Development Party, while U Zeya acted as secretary of the meeting. The following delegates participated in the discussions:

U Aung Shwe, U Lwin, U Thazan Hla, National League for Democracy; U Htun Yi, U Than Tin, U Htun Yin Law, U Khin Maung Gyi, National Unity Party; U Marcos alias U Sai Lon, Wa Development Party; U Saw Than Aung, Union Kayin League; and U Anthony Soe alias U La Yaung, Shan State Kokan Democratic Party. The date of 8 February was designated for presenting the report. The meeting ended at 1100.

A panel discussion among the elected representatives was held at 0930 this morning in Meeting Room No. 4. The panel was presided over by the alternate chairman, U Maung Gyi from the Union Pa-O National Organization, with U Myo Nyunt acting as secretary of the meeting. At the meeting, delegates discussed gathering suggestions, and formatting and presenting the report on suggestions made by delegates concerning the chapter headings that should be included in drafting the state constitution. The date of 9 February was designated for presenting the report. The meeting ended at 1100.

The panel discussion among the delegates of national races was held in Meeting Hall No. 1 at 1000. It was presided over by the alternate chairman, U Kyi Nyunt of Yangon Division, with U San Tun acting as secretary of the meeting. At the meeting, gathering suggestions, and formatting and presenting the report on suggestions made by delegates concerning the chapter headings that should be included in drafting the state constitution were coordinated and discussed.

The following delegates took part in the discussion: U Kyaw Yin, South Dagon Myothit, Yangon Division; U Aung Kyaw, Kyaukme Township, Shan State; U Kyaw Soe Lay alias U Tin Soe, Monyin Township, Kachin State; U Beta Thaung Sein, Keng Tung Township, Shan State; and U Tin U, Kyauktaga Township, Pegu Division. The meeting ended at 1100.

The coordination meeting of the chairmen representing the peasants' delegates was held in Meeting Hall No. 7. It was attended by chairmen members U Kan Nyunt, Hkamti Township, Sagiang Division; U Thein Lwin, Myaungmya Township, Irrawaddy Division; U Maung Maung Thein, Myingyan Township, Mandalay Division; U Sai Tint Aung, Hsenwi Township, Shan State; and U Tin Maung Kyaw, Yesagyo Township, Magwe Division. At the meeting, U Thant Zin acted as secretary of the meeting. They coordinated and discussed the chapter headings that should be included in drafting the state constitution. These chapter headings were selected and unanimously agreed upon at the panel discussion of peasants' delegates on 3 February. The meeting decided to continue the panel discussion of the peasants' delegates on 5 February. The meeting ended at 1400.

The panel discussion of workers' delegates was held in Meeting Hall No. 6 at 1000. The meeting was presided over by the alternate chairman, U San Tin of Irrawaddy Division, with U Kyaw Zaw Naing acting as secretary of the meeting. At the meeting, U Gae Kwi Shein, Mintad Township, Chin State discussed and suggested matters concerning the chapter headings that should be included in drafting the state constitution. They also coordinated and discussed gathering suggestions, and formatting and presenting the report on suggestions made by delegates concerning the chapter headings that should be included in drafting the state constitution. The meeting participants decided to hold discussions on 8 February. The meeting ended at 1250.

The panel discussion of delegates representing members of the intelligentsia and technocrats continued at 1000 this morning in Meeting Hall No. 3. The meeting was presided over by the alternate chairman, Film Director U Khin Zaw, with U Kyaw Sein acting as secretary. At the meeting, U Pe Than, chief engineer; U Hla Tun Aung, rector; U Ye Htwe, Thabin Asiayon; Mya U, rector; U Thein, nuclear scientist; U Po Saw; artistes U Min Naing and U Sein Bo Tint; and Daw Po, professor of the Burmese language, discussed and made suggestions on the chapter headings that should be included in drafting the state constitution. The meeting participants decided to hold discussions on 5 February. The meeting ended at 1205.

The panel discussion of representatives of public service personnel continued at 0930 this morning in Meeting Hall No. 8. The meeting was presided over by the alternate chairman, U Kyi Aye from the Finance and Planning Ministry, with U Hla Win acting as secretary of the meeting. Attending the meeting were: U Maung Maung, of the Ministry of Hotel and Tourism; U Kyaw Win, Ministry of Culture; Lieutenant Colonel Aung San, Ministry of Defense; Dr. Myint Lwin, Health Ministry; U Soe Lwin, Ministry of Construction; Lt. Col Ba Myint, Ministry of Defense; Lt. Col. Thein Tun, Ministry of Defense; U Win Zaw Nyunt, Ministry of Industry-1; U Khin Maung Myint, Office of the Public Service Personnel Selection and Training; U Min Aung, Ministry of Labor; U Soe Myint, Supreme Court; Lt. Col. Thaik

Tun, Ministry of Defense; Daw Khin Than Tin, Office of the Auditor General; Colonel Win Hlaing, Ministry of Defense; U Tun Shwe, Ministry of Labor; U Khun Ba Yin, Ministry of Education; U Tun Aung, Ministry of Construction; and U San Aung, Ministry of Energy. The participants discussed and made suggestions on specifying the chapter headings for the constitution. The meeting participants decided to continue the discussion on 5 February. The meeting ended at 1600.

The panel discussion of special invitees was held in Meeting Hall No. 2 at 1000. At the meeting, matters of specifying the chapter headings of the constitution were discussed. The meeting was presided over by the alternate chairman, former ambassador U Ko, with U Soe Lwin acting as secretary of the meeting. The following persons held discussions and made suggestions at the meeting: U Chan Lan, Special Region-1, Kachin State; U Aung Hkam Ti, Southern Shan Region-6; former ambassador U Pe Khin; Dr. Tin Tin Mun, chairman of the Maternal and Child Care Association; veteran U Saw Tun Sein; Professor Dr. Han Tun, Medical Institute of Mandalay; Dr. Chantha alias U Nyi Nyi, Maungdaw Township; U Myint Lwin alias U Gwan Kwaita, Kutkai Township; and U Lwe Sai, Northern Shan Region-7. The meeting participants decided to continue the panel discussion on 5 February. The meeting ended at 1545.

## Panel Discussions Enter 4th Day

*BK0502161093 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 5 Feb 93*

[Text] The delegates representing peasants, the intelligentsia, technocrats, public service personnel, and special invitees held panel discussions on writing a report on suggestions made by delegates concerning the chapter headings that should be included in drawing up the national constitution. They met in the respective meeting halls at the Kyaikkasan Grounds this morning and specified the dates for formatting the reports.

The panel discussion of peasants' delegates began in Meeting Hall No. 7 at 0930 this morning. The meeting was presided over by the alternate chairman, U Maung Maung Thein of Myingyan Township, Mandalay Division, with U Thant Zin acting as secretary of the meeting. At the meeting, U Thein Maung, Buthitaung Township, Arakan State; U Kyi Tint, Danubyu Township, Irrawaddy Division; U Mya Aye, Kayan Township, Yangon [Rangoon] Division; U Than Maung, Kanbalu Township, Sagaing Township; U Kyi Maung, Myittha Township, Mandalay Division; U Win Thein, Natmauk Township, Magwe Division; U Thaung Khin, Shwetaung Township, Pegu Division; U Kyaw Nyein, Kalaw Township, Shan State; U Shay Re, Loikaw Township, Kayah State; U Tin Myint, Waw Township, Pegu Division; U Chit Than, Ngazaw Township, Sagaing Division; U Thein Lwin, Myaungmya Township, Irrawaddy Division; and U Mya Thaung, Thadan U Township, Mandalay Division took part in the discussion and gave suggestions. The meeting decided to hold the discussion on 9 February. The meeting ended at 1410.

The panel discussion of representatives of the intelligentsia and technocrats began in Meeting Hall No. 3 at 0900. The meeting was presided over by the alternate chairman U Ba Han, expert on laws, while U Kyaw Sein acted as secretary of the meeting. At the meeting, U Thein Naing, professor of the History Department, Bassein Degree College, read the formatted draft report on chapter headings discussed and suggested by representatives of the intelligentsia and technocrats. It was approved by the chairman. Professor U Thein Naing was selected and appointed as a representative among the representatives of intelligentsia and technocrats to read the report concerning the chapter headings. Rector U Tha Hla Shwe was also selected and appointed as reserved representative to read the report. The meeting ended at 1530.

The panel discussion of representatives of public service personnel began in Meeting Hall No. 8 at 0930. The meeting was presided over by the alternate chairman, Lieutenant Colonel Thaik Tun, Ministry of Defense, while U Hla Win acted as secretary of the meeting. At the meeting, U Tun Aung, Ministry of Construction; U Khin Maung Ohn, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; U Ko Ko Gyi, Office of the President; Lt. Col. Aung San, Ministry of Defense; U Tun Sein, commission for holding a multiparty, democratic general election; and U Win Maung, Ministry of Mines, discussed and presented suggestions on specifying the chapter headings in the Constitution. The meeting decided to continue the discussion on 8 February. The meeting ended at 1050.

The panel discussion of special invitees was held in Meeting Hall No. 2 at 1000 this morning. The meeting was presided over by the alternate chairman, U Khun Tint Nyein, Special Region-1, Kachin State, while U Soe Lwin acted as secretary of the meeting. At the meeting, U Kyaw Myint, alias U Win Maung, Namhkan Township; Dr. Maung Maung Sein, adviser from the Ministry of Health; Headmaster U Saw Hla Tun, Chaung-U Township, Sagaing Division; U Wan Tin, former commissioner; U Sai Aung Tun, former headmaster; U Gi Barabyan, Kayan group; and veteran U Saw Tun Sein discussed and gave suggestions. The meeting decided to continue the discussion on 8 February. The meeting ended at 1430.

## Call Renewed for Sanctions Against SLORC

*BK0602031193 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 6 Feb 93 p 6*

[Text] Key Burmese dissident groups have renewed calls for the international community to impose economic and arms sanctions against the military leadership in Rangoon.

The National Council of the Union of Burma (NCUB) argued that the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC) had refused to transfer power to a popularly-elected party, detained thousands of political prisoners, practised "chauvinism" against ethnic groups and escalated the civil war by continuing military offensives.

The NCUB is a parliament-like umbrella for the National Coalition Government of the Union of Burma (or the so-called parallel government) and the Democratic Alliance of Burma, which brings together 12 ethnic minority groups under the leadership of Karen leader General Bo Mya.

The NCUB called on governments of the world to "stop selling weapons, munitions and military equipment to the SLORC and cease co-operating or dealing with the SLORC economically".

It also appealed for the unconditional release of all political prisoners, including Nobel Peace Prize laureate Aung San Suu Kyi.

The international community was also urged to declare SLORC "illegal and illegitimate" and cease relations with it.

The group further called for the removal of SLORC from Burma's seat at the United Nations and sought international assistance in its efforts to establish a "true federal democratic government in Burma".

The appeal was released at the Karen headquarters on the 47th anniversary of the group's "revolutionary" struggle on January 31.

### Delegation Leaves for PRC Economic Meeting

*BK0702075693 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 6 Feb 93*

[Text] Myanmar [Burmese] delegation led by Brigadier General Win Tin, deputy minister for planning and finance, left this morning by air for the People's Republic of China to attend a meeting on opening the door to the outside world for economic development in the Southwestern regions of the PRC to be held in Kunming, Yunan Province, PRC on 10-12 February.

The delegation was seen off at the airport by Brig. Gen. Abel, minister for planning and finance; PRC Ambassador Mr. Liang Feng; responsible personnel from the Ministry of Finance and Planning, Ministry of Energy, and Ministry of Trade; and family members.

### Thai Officials Meet Energy Minister

*BK0602083993 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 5 Feb 93*

[Text] Petroleum Authority of Thailand general manager, Mr. [name indistinct], and five of the firm's officials, who are currently in Myanmar [Burma], called on U Khin Maung Thein, minister of energy, at the guest room of the Ministry of Energy on Minye Kyawzwa Road at 1000 this morning.

# Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

## Malaysia

### Clinton Foreign Policy Vision 'Hollow Words'

*BK0502130193 Kuala Lumpur BERITA HARIAN in Malay 25 Jan 93 p 10*

[Editorial: "Bill Clinton's True Colors Have Been Exposed"]

[Text] Bill Clinton, the 42d president of the United States, has expressed his intention to see the world united on trade matters and compete economically rather than militarily to develop markets and narrow the gap between the rich and the poor. He envisions a world that will strive for democracy and compromise, respect human rights, unite against the enemies of humanity—war, poverty, illiteracy, disease, and environment destruction—, and one that can be safely bequeathed to succeeding generations with the consciousness that we will succeed in fulfilling our new responsibility in a new atmosphere.

The Western mass media has described Clinton's agenda as a noble vision. On the surface, we see it as something noble. But what Clinton has been doing after having taken over the U.S. administration is not different from what had been done by former President Bush, a cowboy who went too far in his actions. What he has termed as an aggressive, disciplined foreign policy that uses preventive diplomacy to handle world affairs has in fact been a compilation of hollow words uttered on a dramatic stage called the White House. The second attack on Iraq yesterday, two days after the first one, showed that he had triggered the crisis. Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed termed Clinton's action as disappointing.

Indeed, we hope Clinton will adopt a different policy from Bush's. He should not get carried away by cowboy Bush's desire to topple Saddam because no new action should be taken against Iraq without a UN mandate. However, Clinton is in fact trapped in Bush's past policy. Not only is this distressful, it will also cause further instability in the world. We are convinced that Clinton will be opposed not only by Muslim countries, but that his own allies will leave him as well. For example, Europe no longer wants to attack Iraq just to satisfy the United States. The EC has even issued a declaration expressing their reluctance to be U.S. mercenaries.

It is astonishing to learn why the United States is so concerned over Iraq but closes its eyes on acts of brutality in Bosnia-Hercegovina. Clinton has no specific approach in handling the two issues—Saddam Husayn and Slobodan Milosevic. He should have viewed Saddam's promise to honor a cease-fire as a goodwill gesture, and his reply with an attack was not indicative of any sincerity. We view Clinton's action as violence rather than diplomacy. If violence had been unleashed against Iraq, why shouldn't the same be done to Milosevic and the Serbs who have proven to be cruel and inhuman? Does diplomacy apply only to the Serbs?

Clearly, Clinton is aware that the Bosnian issue is more difficult to handle than Saddam. Clinton is trapped between his desire to see peace talks led by former Secretary of State Cyrus R. Vance succeed and his anxiety that such a settlement will mean condoning Serbian violence and brutality. This shows his weakness. For us, the status quo in Iraq that has kept the leader in power must be accepted as a by-product of the war. Excessive action or what General Colin L. Powell called "over-action" [preceding word in English] must be avoided.

We believe that the best step for Clinton to take is to accommodate Iraq's sincerity for a dialogue. The Clinton administration must accept the peace gesture while removing obstacles previously put up by the Bush administration. The attack by U.S. warships against Iraq yesterday will only bring about consequences and disaster. Clinton should concentrate on ways to contribute to global democratic revolutions, to ensure peace in the Middle East, and most importantly to immediately end ethnic cleansing in Bosnia-Hercegovina. The attacks against Iraq have just been a cowboy-like action motivated by revenge and will not lead to peace. If Clinton continues attacks against Iraq, there will certainly be no difference between him and Bush.

## Finance Minister's European Visit Viewed

*BK0602102793 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0800 GMT 6 Feb 93*

[Station commentary]

[Text] There is a hectic schedule for Malaysia's Finance Minister Datuk Sri Anwar Ibrahim on his current 10-day visit to London, Paris and Frankfurt, which began on Thursday. The main objective of the visit is to woo European enterpreneurs to invest in the Labuan International Off-shore Financial Center, IOFC, off the east coast in the state of Sabah.

The inclusion of some 30 businessmen in the minister's delegation reflects the (?purpose) of the mission in attracting European investors to exploit the vast potential that is rich in the Labuan IOFC.

Datuk Sri Anwar's tight itinerary includes meetings with British Prime Minister, John Major, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Norman Lamont, as well as some 200 representatives of London-based European friends who will be attending a day-long seminar on Labuan, Malaysia's IOFC.

Being firmly in charge of Malaysia's finance and economic development, the minister is in the position to give an accurate appraisal of Malaysia's policies on foreign investments and the opportunities available—especially in Labuan. His keynote address at the seminar will certainly be worthy of taking note of in giving serious consideration.

In Paris and Frankfurt, too, Datuk Sri Anwar will be making similar addresses and holding discussions while the businessmen accompanying him will be engaged in meeting with their respective counterparts. These are bound to result in fruitful outcome that will be beneficial to all parties concerned.

Early this week the Minister of International Trade and Industry, Datuk Sri Rafidah Aziz, who was in London, reported that the Malaysian investment climate remains attractive to European businesmen despite certain developments arising out of the proposed constitutional amendments bill. Current and future investors are confident that the country is heading in the right direction toward strengthening the democratic system and respect for the rule of law.

While Malaysia woos investors from Europe and elsewhere, it also looks toward its East Asia neighbors and economic giant, Japan, for assistance in terms of more trade and direct investments. Malaysia and the rest of Southeast Asia have been recognized as the fastest growing region in the world. They have also recognized and adopted the concept of a free-trading environment and an open market system as being vital for the further progress of the region.

There should be serious consideration to the Malaysian mooted proposal for the establishment of an East Asia Economic Caucus, EAEC. The EAEC, while being a loose and consultative forum for East Asian countries to meet and discuss economic issues of common concern, can also serve to help them to present a single voice at international trade negotiations. Malaysia will certainly welcome Japan's acceptance and participation in the proposed caucus.

## Defense Minister on Defense Pact With India

*BK0702131693 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1230 GMT 7 Feb 93*

[Text] The Malaysian defense minister, Mr. Najib, says India and Malaysia can in future think of joint development of parts [as heard], logistic support and in-country servicing of common equipment and aircraft of the two countries. Mr. Najib told our Southeast Asia correspondent that the new memorandum signed with India provides the basic umbrella of political commitment.

## Tin Output Reported Down in 1992

*BK0402122793 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 3 Feb 93 p 16*

[Text] Malaysia's production of tin-in-concentrates fell by four percent in November 1992 to 1,121 tonnes from 1,166 tonnes in the previous month, the Statistics Department said yesterday.

It said cumulative production during the first eleven months of last year was reduced by 31 percent to 13,138 tonnes compared with an output of 19,169 tonnes recorded in the corresponding period in 1991.

Malaysia imported 2,212 tonnes of tin in November 1992, up 16 percent from the preceding month but lower by 517 tonnes compared with the corresponding month in 1991, it said.

However, the cumulative imports of 30,685 tonnes during the January-November period were higher by 3,714 tonnes or 14 percent compared with imports during the corresponding period in 1991.

The department said Malaysia imported 84 percent of its tin requirements during the period from seven countries, namely Peru, Australia, China, Bolivia, Portugal, Vietnam and Britain.

Exports of tin metal in November also decreased by nine percent to 3,232 tonnes from 3,566 tonnes in October 1992.

Cumulative exports were, however, higher at 41,875 tonnes during the January to November period last year, up 31 percent from 38,193 tonnes in the corresponding period of 1991.

The department noted that half of Malaysia's exports during this period went to the Netherlands (11,937 tonnes) and Japan (8,922 tonnes) while countries like South Korea, Taiwan, Australia and the United States were the other major buyers.

Malaysian manufacturers used 343 tonnes of tin-in-concentrates in November, a sharp drop of 30 percent over the 488 tonnes used a month earlier.

However, cumulative local consumption of tin-in-concentrates rose sharply by 24 percent to 4,265 tonnes from January to November 1992 against a consumption of 3,451 tonnes in the corresponding period in 1991.

## Singapore

### Reportage on Thai Foreign Minister's Visit

#### Prasong Meets Leaders

*BK0502123693 Singapore Singapore Broadcasting Corporation in English 1100 GMT 5 Feb 93*

[Text] Singapore and Thailand have agreed that both countries should work together toward achieving an ASEAN free trade area as early as possible and that there is scope to expand their friendly relations. The visiting Thai foreign minister, Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri, today held talks with several Singapore leaders. Talks with his counterpart, Mr. Wong Kan Seng, touched on bilateral relations, ASEAN, and Cambodia. A spokesman said both sides agreed that economic relations are not a zero-sum game (?and stressed) that both countries complement each other in many ways.

#### Expresses Concern Over Cambodia

*BK0602030593 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 6 Feb 93 p*

[Text] Singapore—ASEAN foreign ministers might hold a meeting on Cambodia if the situation in that country worsens, according to [Thai] Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri yesterday.

"I am very worried about what is going on in Cambodia," he said.

Sqn Ldr [Squadron Leader] Prasong yesterday held separate meetings with Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong, Foreign Minister Wong Kan Seng and Trade and Industry Minister S. Dhanabalan.

He said his concern over the fighting between rival forces loyal to Phnom Penh and the Khmer Rouge was shared by Mr Goh.

The present situation coud affect the coming general elections and the post-election transfer of power to an elected government, he said.

UNTAC is mandated to organise the election of a constituent assembly from May 23-25.

Thailand and Singapore agreed ASEAN should monitor the situation closely to determine the association's post-election role, he said.

But, as in Indonesia and Brunei earlier, it was felt ASEAN should at most play a supporting role because the task of reconciliation was for Cambodians to accomplish themselves.

Sqn Ldr Prasong is in Singapore on the last leg of a three-nation tour of ASEAN partners, which also includes the Philippines and Malaysia.

Cooperation in trade and investment also featured prominently in talks here yesterday.

Sqn Ldr Prasong welcomed Singaporean investment in Thailand as part of the island republic's plan to channel projects to the ASEAN member states.

He told Singaporean leaders of the Thai Government's new policy to encourage investment beyond Bangkok and neighbouring provinces.

He spoke of incentives for investors who decide to put their capital in these more distant places.

Singapore plans to host a seminar on the regionalisation of investments, said the Foreign Ministry's Economic Affairs Department Director-General, Sawanit Khongsiri.

The idea of channelling Singaporean capital to ASEAN member states was initiated by Senior Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew about four years ago.

Middle-scale industrial projects were the main targets.

Sqn Ldr Prasong is due to meet Mr Lee this afternoon.

The foreign minister quoted Singaporean Prime Minister Goh as expressing support for the Northern Growth Triangle concept.

Mr Goh reportedly said any cooperation for developing the region was welcome.

Malaysia has proposed the Northern Growth Triangle as an economic cooperation arrangement between itself, Indonesia and Thailand.

Singapore has entered a similar arrangement with Indonesia and Thailand.

Sqn Ldr Prasong also said Singapore would like to speed up tax reduction plans in order to push forward the establishment of an ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA).

### Urges Cambodian Factions To Unite

*BK0602112493 Singapore Singapore Broadcasting Corporation in English 1100 GMT 6 Feb 93*

[Text] The Thai foreign minister has urged all factions in Cambodia to join hands and work for lasting peace in their country. In an exclusive interview with SBC [Singapore Broadcasting Corporation], Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri, said the people of Cambodia should help themselves too.

He added that Thailand would (?give its) support to the people of Cambodia, but does not wish to interfere in their domestic problems. Mr. Prasong said Thailand has closed its border with Cambodia to comply with the United Nation's ban on cross-border trade with the Khmer Rouge.

This afternoon Squadron Leader Prasong called on the senior minister, Mr. Lee Kuan Yew, at the Istana [Palace]. The Thai minister leaves Singapore tomorrow for Bangkok.

## Cambodia

### Sihanouk Rejects French Proposal on Polls

*HK0602090193 Hong Kong AFP in English 0850 GMT 6 Feb 93*

[Text] Beijing, Feb 6 (AFP)—Prince Norodom Sihanouk on Saturday rejected a French-backed proposal for presidential elections in Cambodia to be held prior to parliamentary polls set for May. "I express profound gratitude to the government of the French Republic ... but I must state that I am absolutely against presidential elections before legislative elections," he said in a communique. Presidential elections cannot be held before a freely-elected parliament promulgates a new constitution, he added.

The United Nations, which is trying to implement a 1991 peace plan in Cambodia, is to oversee the May 23-25 parliamentary elections called for in the Paris peace accords, which did not envision a presidential election. The principle of presidential elections, however, has been accepted by the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) and by Cambodia's rival factions.

Sihanouk, 70, who has been in Beijing for medical treatment, is seen by many as the only Cambodian personality with the authority and prestige to become president. But this past week he said, without giving a reason, that it was "probable" that he would not be a candidate.

On Thursday, Jean Musitelli, a spokesman for French President Francois Mitterrand, said Paris supported a proposal by Cambodian Foreign Minister Nor Hamhong, who discussed with French counterpart Roland Dumas the holding of a presidential election on April 5. Such a poll would favor, Musitelli said, the creation of a coalition government that would include all factions taking part in the subsequent parliamentary vote.

It would constitute, he added, "the best guarantee in the face of a delicate and critical period which Cambodia will go through in the coming months." Sihanouk, who has been in Beijing for 2-1/2 months, is to leave Tuesday for Phnom Penh where, a few days later, he will receive Mitterrand.

### Sihanouk's 5 Feb Communique

*BK0802012693 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 7 Feb 93*

["Press Communique of Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the Supreme National Council, on the issue of presidential elections"—dated 5 February; read by announcer]

[Text] I would like to thank the government of the French Republic, which has again voiced its support for the holding of presidential polls ahead of legislative elections. Once again, I would like to reaffirm that I am absolutely opposed to the holding of the presidential polls before the legislative elections or before a constituent assembly promulgates a new Cambodian constitution.

[Signed] Norodom Sihanouk.

[Dated] Beijing, 5 February 1993.

## Sihanouk Urges Factions To Stop Fighting

*HK0702074493 Hong Kong AFP in English 0710 GMT 7 Feb 93*

[Text] Beijing, Feb 7 (AFP)—Prince Norodom Sihanouk has urged Cambodia's rival factions to stop fighting and start respecting the Paris peace accords which call for elections to be held in May.

"I beseech the misguided armed Cambodian factions to radically and definitively end such (ceasefire) violations," Prince Sihanouk said in a message to leaders of the four factions, dated Saturday.

Copies of the letters were released to the press Sunday in Beijing, where Sihanouk, 70, has been undergoing medical treatment. He returns to Phnom Penh on Tuesday to greet visiting French President Francois Mitterrand.

His plea came after the Phnom Penh government launched an offensive against the Khmer Rouge, which brutally ruled Cambodia in 1975-79 and which is refusing to join the UN-supervised peace process.

Cambodia's other two factions are FLNPK [Khmer People's National Liberation Front] nationalists led by former premier Son Sann and a pro-Sihanouk group, FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] led by the ex-monarch's son Prince Norodom Ranariddh.

In his message, Sihanouk wrote: "Certain armed Cambodian factions have gravely violated, and continue to violate, the provisions of the Paris accords." He asked the faction leaders to "bring honor to our country, our people and our race in respecting the Paris accords on Cambodia dated October 23, 1991 and conventions on the rights of man."

Legislative elections have been set for Cambodia on May 23-25. On Thursday, Sihanouk let it be known that he might not be a candidate in presidential elections which, it has been suggested, could be held afterwards.

## Sihanouk Discusses Presidential Powers

*OW0802085193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0815 GMT 8 Feb 93*

[Text] Beijing, Feb. 8 KYODO—Prince Norodom Sihanouk said Monday he will only run for presidential office in Cambodia if the post is accorded similar constitutional powers of those enjoyed by a United States President.

Sihanouk also said that he has not committed a double volte-face on the question of when best to hold the presidential poll, saying it must take place after an elected Cambodian national assembly has promulgated a new state constitution.

Cambodian leaders agreed late last month to stage legislative elections from May 23-25 to form a constituent assembly which will then draft a constitution.

Sihanouk, who chairs Cambodia's Supreme National Council (SNC), made the remarks in a press statement released in Beijing on the eve of his departure for Phnom Penh.

"My candidacy or non-candidacy in presidential elections will depend on what I think of the contents of the constitution put forward by Cambodia's constituent assembly," Sihanouk said.

"Given the gravity of the situation in my country, it is essential that the president of Cambodia has, in his own country, as much power as the U.S. President," he said.

Sihanouk dismissed charges that he has changed his mind several times over the most suitable moment to hold presidential elections, saying the timing has never been of importance to him.

"The question for me is to know what powers I will be given to improve the situation in a 'shipwrecked' Cambodia, assuming that one day I am elected president by the Cambodian people," he said.

Blaming the timing controversy on anti-Sihanouk forces, the SNC leader said moves to hold the contest in conjunction with or even before legislative elections had been scuttled by other people, not himself.

While admitting that he originally favored an early presidential contest to allow him to get on with trying to rebuild Cambodia, Sihanouk said political maneuvering by hostile forces had forced him to take definitive action.

"I had to put a final end to controversy and maneuvering by declaring that the presidential elections must take place after the legislative elections and after the promulgation of a new Cambodian constitution by the national assembly," he said.

Sihanouk departs for Cambodia on Tuesday after a lengthy stay in Beijing for medical treatment.

He is expected to remain in Phnom Penh for between six to eight weeks and is scheduled to meet with French President Francois Mitterrand there.

## Diplomat: Withdrawals From UNTAC Threatened

*BK0702015293 Bangkok THE NATION in English 7 Feb 93 p A1*

[Text] Some Asian countries participating in the UN peacekeeping operation in Cambodia, concerned about the safety of their troops, have threatened to withdraw if the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (Untac) agrees to act as a buffer between Phnom Penh and Khmer Rouge forces, a Bangkok-based diplomat said.

The joint concern was expressed unofficially in the face of a Supreme National Council (SNC) meeting in Phnom Penh on Wednesday.

Officials at the meeting discussed Phnom Penh's proposal to position Untac soldiers as a buffer between its troops and those of the Khmer Rouge as a condition for any withdrawal from the front line, about 30 km from the Khmer Rouge's main base in Pailin.

The former Cambodian resistance factions, with the exception of the Khmer Rouge, agreed to Phnom Penh's proposal.

Countries whose troops would be sent into the buffer zone were concerned that Untac would be placing itself in a dangerous position without a peace enforcement mandate, according to the diplomat, who asked not to be named.

An Untac force of about 20,000 is currently equipped with light arms for peacekeeping purposes only.

"Even if [Untac's] mandate is switched from peacekeeping to peace enforcement, some Asian countries may withdraw their participation," said the diplomat, noting that such a decision could send the peacekeepers home before their mandatory operation is completed in August or September.

He said some meetings among the parties concerned would be held in Bangkok to discuss ways to prevent the situation in Cambodia from deteriorating further. Any resolutions would be delivered to the co-chairmen—France and Indonesia—of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia.

"One way is that Untac would strictly observe its duty within the framework of the Paris peace accord," said the diplomat, adding that it would mean "obviously not placing itself in a buffer zone".

The northwestern Cambodian province of Battambang, a western front line which has seen heavy battles between Phnom Penh and Khmer Rouge troops during the past week, was a major base of multinational peacekeeping forces, including those of Thailand, Indonesia and Malaysia.

Other contested areas are the central and northern provinces of Kampong Thom, Preah Vihear, Siem Reap and Kracheah.

Thailand opposed the buffer zone proposal because it fears the further partitioning of Cambodia, which is already experiencing a form of partitioning with the Khmer Rouge refusal to disarm and demobilize troops or participate in a UN-supervised legislative elections in May.

Long-term partitioning of Cambodia would significantly affect security along the border, as the Khmer Rouge, isolated by such a partition, would be forced to roam along the Thai border for its economic survival.

## Indonesia

### 3d Batch of UN Forces Leave for Cambodia 6 Feb

*BK0602072493 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0600 GMT 6 Feb 93*

[Text] The third batch of Indonesian Garuda XII-D troops comprising 113 personnel and 100 policemen for the United Nations peacekeeping force under the United Nations Transitional Authority [UNTAC] in Cambodia left for Phnom Penh via Halim Perdanakusuma Airport, Jakarta today. They were seen off by Major General Harseno, commander of the Jakarta Metropolitan Jaya Military Command. The Garuda XII-D contingent will be replacing the Garuda XII-B personnel.

Maj. Gen. Harseno expressed hope that Indonesian troops serving under the UNTAC mission will perform their duties well and with a full sense of responsibility. He said that the good reputation of the Indonesian Garuda contingents are well known to the Cambodian people and UNTAC personnel for having carried out their duties successfully.

### Paper Hopes Suharto Allowed To Address G-7

*BK0602094193 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 27 Jan 93 p 4*

[Editorial: "Living In One World"]

[Text] Although an official reply has yet to come from the Group of Seven [G-7], it can be predicted that President Suharto's hopes of attending the group's meeting in Tokyo in July are destined to dim.

As Japanese newspapers reported on Sunday, only Russian President Boris Yeltsin is expected to be invited to attend the meeting of the world's richest countries.

The newspapers quoting government officials preparing for the July 7-9 summit said that Suharto would not be invited.

Suharto lodged the request to "hold a dialog" with G-7 leaders with visiting Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa earlier this month. On Monday, Miyazawa was quoted as saying in Tokyo that he would consult with G-7 leaders to see what can be done to "grant Suharto's wish."

We do not yet know what reasoning will be contained in the official reply which has yet to be delivered by the Foreign Ministry. What is becoming clear is that it is difficult to convince the developed countries to give any answer but a definite no, whatever their reasons may be.

Minister of Foreign Affairs Ali Alatas said on Monday that there had been a lot of misunderstandings concerning President Suharto's request to speak at the summit.

The President, Alatas said, did not want to go to the summit to ask for aid, nor to convey the wish to become a member of G-7, nor to take part in any of its meetings.

On Suharto's shoulders lies the weight of responsibility for the peoples of 108 countries, which represent two-thirds of the human race, in his capacity as chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement.

His only intention is to speak for half an hour at one of G-7's one world summit sessions to convey a call for global collective action on and the democratization of international relations. The call, incorporated in the Jakarta Message, was formulated at the movement's summit last September. Among the elements in the message was an emphasis on dialog and cooperation in the movement's efforts toward achieving its goals.

The G-7 summit is undoubtedly an appropriate venue to revive the long-stalled North-South dialog. We believe that the time is ripe to revive communication, now that the movement has been reinvigorated.

The movement's appeal is sensible in that it bases its approach on cooperation rather than confrontation but it seems that G-7 looks down on the movement.

This is unfortunate because the widening disparity between developed and developing countries calls for immediate and concrete common efforts by the people of all nations.

President Suharto has said he will not waver in his efforts to speak at the summit and hinted that he might lodge a similar request with Helmut Kohl, the Chancellor of Germany, who is expected to visit Jakarta next month.

So far, this episode shows that knocking on "rich men's" doors is difficult even if no aid is involved.

Nevertheless, we would like to keep a flicker of hope alight that the wish to convey the message will eventually be fulfilled since it is not the hope of Suharto himself, nor his personal interests, that are at stake but the fate and situation of the greater part of the human race.

There are still some months to go before July and we hope this will be enough time to convince the rich nations that we are living in an ever smaller world in which communication and cooperation are vital.

## Malaysian Minister Arrives for Bilateral Talks

*BK0702085893 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0000 GMT 7 Feb 93*

[Text] The Malaysian Government believes that the dispute on the Sipadan and Ligitan islands between Malaysia and Indonesia will be solved through a sense of togetherness and the two countries will solve the issue by holding appropriate consultations. Malaysian Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said this to reporters on his arrival at Jakarta's Sukarno-Hatta International Airport last night. The Malaysian minister hopes that the issue will not be an obstacle to the current, excellent bilateral ties.

The two countries have always had close ties through the regional and international forums and they must cherish these close ties. The Malaysian foreign minister is making a three-day visit to Indonesia and is accompanied by a 30-member delegation. He is scheduled to hold talks with Indonesian officials on several bilateral issues, including the issue of the two islands.

## Australian Premier Meets Agriculture Minister

*BK0602130993 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 1200 GMT 6 Feb 93*

[Text] Australian Prime Minister Paul John Keating is optimistic over the bright future of Australian-Indonesian relations because the two sides are actively promoting the welfare of their peoples, particularly through agricultural cooperation. The Australian prime minister made the remarks when he received Agriculture Minister Wardoyo in Canberra yesterday.

Minister Wardoyo told newsmen that Prime Minister Paul Keating was happy over the results of meetings between senior agriculture officials of the two countries and called for their immediate realization. Prime Minister Keating also called for bilateral cooperation to be expanded to all sectors and more frequent visits by Indonesian officials to Australia.

According to Minister Wardoyo, beef and milk imports from Australia will be reduced if cow seed imports from that country are sufficient and cattle production in Indonesia increases.

## Military: No Journalists Expelled From E. Timor

*BK0602052293 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0422 GMT 6 Feb 93*

[Text] Jakarta, Feb 6 (OANA/ANTARA)—Indonesian Armed Forces Commmander General Try Sutrisno denied press reports that six foreign journalists have been expelled from East Timor.

"Who expelled them?" was the general's spontaneous response to a question by the press after his meeting with House Commission I toward midnight Friday.

"So, the report was not true?" ANTARA asked him again to confirm the denial.

"I don't know. Where is Nurhadi?" The four-star general was referring to the Armed Forces Chief spokesman.

Later Brigadier General Nurhadi told General Try that the report was definitely untrue. Nurhadi said all have been granted a permit from the Information Ministry. It appears that some of them wanted to go home earlier, but their departure was construed by some reporters as being expelled. Nurhadi explained:

"The court trial there is open to the public, and no journalists have been banned from attending the sessions. Even nine of the newsmen were from Portugal," Nurhadi added.

### New Year Celebration Banned at Buddhist Temples

*BK0702102893 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 29 Jan 93 p 2*

[Text] Jakarta (JP)—The government has stood behind its decision to ban the celebration of the Chinese New Year at Buddhist temples, which created discord in the Buddhist community.

Director General for Hindus and Buddhists Affairs I. Gusti Agung Gde Putra said yesterday that he banned the celebration of the new year, which is locally known as "imlek" in the temples because it was not part of the Buddhist religious calender.

The Indonesian Buddhists Association announced on Wednesday that it would sue the government and the Buddhist council for banning the celebration because it contravened a presidential decree on religious freedom.

The Indonesian Buddhist Council had endorsed the banning of the "imlek" celebration at Buddhist temples.

The celebration could strain the process of assimilation between the ethnic Chinese and the indigenous people," he said after meeting Buddhist leaders, Dutavira Thera and Virayaguna, and chairman of the Buddhist youth organization, Hamdhani Wiryana, at his office Tuesday.

The "imlek" fell on Saturday, which also happened to be a Buddhist holiday. Many Buddhist temples were closed following the issuance of the controversial decree.

He said the government had no intention of banning religious observance of the Buddhist holiday.

People who closed the temples on Saturday had misinterpreted the government decree on the ban of the Chinese New Year celebration, he said.

"We never banned people from praying at the temples," he told THE JAKARTA POST.

He called on the Buddhist community to be "calm" and conduct their regular rituals "peacefully."

The banned celebration included the performance of dragon dances, all-night-long puppet show, or the procession featuring the statue of "toapekong", one of the Chinese Gods, which used to highlight the "imlek" festival, according to Putra.

## Laos

### Nouhak Phoumsavan Receives Thai Military Group

*BK0502131393 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 5 Feb 93*

[Text] President Nouhak Phoumsavan of the Lao People's Democratic Republic received a delegation of the Royal Thai Army led by Army Commander General Wimon Wongwanit, in Vientiane Capital on the evening of 4 February.

On this occasion, the Lao president expressed his appreciation of the Thai military delegation's visit to Laos—a visit that provides a good opportunity for the military of the two countries to meet and exchange views, promote better understanding on various issues and cooperation in various fields of mutual interest.

Nouhak Phoumsavan stressed that the military of both countries should increase cooperation in safeguarding peace and order along their common border to eradicate the bad elements who are causing disturbances there. The only way to achieve the goal is for both sides to be sincere in implementing the various agreements reached previously, he said.

The Thai military delegation led by Thai Army Commander Gen. Wimon, arrived in Laos on 4 February. During the visit, the delegation paid courtesy calls on key Lao leaders and held a meeting and exchanged views and experiences with leading Ministry of National Defense personnel. The visitors laid a wreath at the monument of the unknown soldiers and visited ancient places in the Vientiane Capital.

The Thai delegation left Vientiane for home on the morning of 5 February by a Thai Air Force plane.

### ASEAN Group Arrives, Meets SPA Official

*BK0802080593 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0500 GMT 8 Feb 93*

[Text] In response to an invitation of His Excellency [H.E.] Thongsing Thammavong, acting chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly [SPA], a 19-member delegation from the ASEAN Interparliamentary Organization, or AIPO, led by H.E. Tan Sri Mohamed Zahir Ismail, its chairman, arrived in Vientiane at noon on 7 February for a three-day goodwill visit to the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR]. The delegation comprises parliamentary representatives of the Republic of Indonesia, Malaysia, the Republic of the Philippines, the Republic of Singapore, and the Kingdom of Thailand.

The Laos visit by the AIPO delegation is the first of its kind. Its objective is to further enhance the new atmosphere that has prevailed since the LPDR signed a document ratifying its participation as a member of the Southeast Asian Friendship and Cooperation Treaty, or the Bali Treaty, at the ASEAN ministerial-level meeting in Manila in 1992. The visit will also provide the SPA and Lao parliamentary delegations with good opportunities to meet and exchange views with AIPO and create better understanding between them on both international and regional issues.

Upon its arrival in Vientiane Capital, the ASEAN delegation was accorded a warm welcome by the SPA acting chairman, H.E. Thongsing Thammavong; members of the SPA Standing Committee; and a group of high-level Lao officials concerned; as well as by the ASEAN diplomatic corps in Laos.

On the afternoon of the same day, H.E. Thongsing Thammavong met with H.E. the AIPO chairman and delegation at the SPA Main Hall. The meeting proceeded in an atmosphere of cordiality, sincerity, and good understanding. Both sides exchanged ideas on developing and expanding friendship and cooperation between the Lao parliament and AIPO at present and in the future. The guests and the hosts also exchanged views on the international and regional situation and informed each other of the current situation in their respective countries.

On this occasion, the Lao SPA acting chairman also informed the guests of the developments of the SPA and the Lao parliament from the establishment of the LPDR to the present. The SPA acting chairman pointed to achievements in various areas of socioeconomic development over the past years, including the expansion of cooperation with other countries in line with the LPDR Government's all-round innovation policy which has been implemented continuously.

### ASEAN Interparliamentary Group To Visit

*BK0602040793 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 5 Feb 93*

[Announcement of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Lao People's Democratic Republic—dated 5 February 1993]

[Text] In response to an invitation of His Excellency Thongsing Thammavong, acting chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], a delegation of the ASEAN Interparliamentary Organization, or AIPO, led by His Excellency Tan Sri Mohamed Zahir Ismail, chairman of the AIPO and speaker of the House of Representatives of Malaysia, will pay an official friendship visit to the LPDR from 7 to 10 February. The AIPO delegation is scheduled to arrive in Vientiane today. It comprises parliamentary delegations of the Republic of Indonesia, Malaysia, the Republic of the Philippines, Singapore, and the Kingdom of Thailand.

## Philippines

### Ramos Speaks at National Police Anniversary

*HK0602063993 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 0151 GMT 4 Feb 93*

[Speech by President Fidel V. Ramos speech on the occasion of the second anniversary of the Philippine National Police (PNP) at PNP headquarters in Camp Crame, Quezon City—live, in English; italicized passages in Tagalog]

[Excerpts] Chief of the Philippine National Police, Raul Imperial; Secretary of Interior and Local Government, Rafael Alunan; Our First Lady, yours and mine, Mrs. Amelita "Ning" Ramos; other distinguished guests, awardees, our fellow workers in government, the officers, men and women, and civilian employees of the Philippine National Police [PNP], ladies and gentlemen, *my dear countrymen*:

It is a great pleasure for me to once again come to Camp Crame and join you on your second anniversary celebration. I extend on this occasion my warmest greetings and felicitations to the officers, non-officers, and civilian employees of the PNP and to your dependents and loved ones who are out there—to you I extend warm sentiments from me and my family. [passage omitted]

What concerns me most about the PNP now is that some sectors of our society appear to be losing confidence in the police force; many even question your competence as a national law enforcement body. Public sentiment is crucial, because your credibility is the key to your effectiveness in law enforcement. Public support, manifested largely by the timely relay of critical information and even complaints to police authorities, is a necessity for effective police work.

It is imperative that your best is good enough in the service of our people. Peace and order is among the top five priority programs of government, not just because it is a major indicator of political stability, but also because it is a precondition to [word indistinct]. Public safety is among the most fundamental services that the government must deliver to our people.

The Philippine National Police is besieged with adverse elements from without and from within. Institutional and organizational aberrations, scalawags in the corps have diluted your effectiveness. The tragic death of a kidnap victim, drug pushers still on the loose, the lax handling of AWOL [absence without leave] and [word indistinct] policing are costly indicators of this lapse.

There are commanders, officers, and non-officers in your ranks, I am sorry to say, who tarnish and dishonor the image and credibility of the entire force. Kidnapping has continued, and the drug menace is as real as ever.

This and many other stories hug the front pages of our newspapers and fill the airwaves. They erode the government's earnest efforts to persuade local and foreign investors to expand their businesses or set up new ventures in our country. Frankly said, these are some of the reasons why people withhold their trust in you.

But, despite the flak that you are getting from all sides, including from your commander-in-chief, I am aware of the noteworthy feats that you notched during the past year, and I commend you for them. I have taken note of your accomplishments in your campaign against crime, the enforcement of special laws and your counterinsurgency drive. Also deserving special mention are your successes as the lead agency that supported the Commission on Elections to ensure the conduct of relatively peaceful, orderly, and credible elections last May.

Unfortunately, I must repeat, your name has been tarnished by scalawags who believe that being law enforcers means being above the law. Your gains, therefore, have been diminished by the few who keep on with their nefarious activities. We will not allow this to continue, and I call upon all commanders at all levels, starting at the level of the chief, PNP, to enforce administrative and punitive sanctions within their authority or recommend measures for the punishment of those they themselves cannot punish. In this regard, I am still awaiting your recommendations to me.

I say to you: Act on this now. PNP members identified and confirmed to be undesirable must be removed from your ranks without delay. I want to see an immediate end to the crime perpetrated by the members of the police organization—and the military also, for that matter. The public must not suffer any longer; neither should the majority of you who abide by the professional, narrow, and straight path whose credibility likewise is dragged down by the crooks in the force.

Peace and order is not just a current day-to-day need. It is a vital factor to our attainment of a better future. I know you share my dream to see our country elevated to the status of a newly industrialized country with the advent of the new [word indistinct]. That you dream to see the masses of our people empowered economically and equipped with the skills and resources to make them live a decent life. And our dream for the Philippines itself to [word indistinct] respected and dignified place in the world. To this vision I am devoting all my working days, which is every day; to this becoming presence [as heard], we shall likewise devote all the remaining days of my term.

I note that the Philippine National Police has a clear vision of the future: that of a professional, dynamic, highly-motivated, and effective police organization, supported by a responsive community, to be regarded as one of the most credible national institutions and eventually to be ranked among the best in Asia. Your visions support and complement my goals for our country and people. But we must not stop at visioning. Programs must be implemented by determined, swift, and coordinated action to solve community problems and serve the national purpose. Your capability, not only against criminality, but also against all threats against our internal security must be developed further. The PNP must be prepared to neutralize the growing sophistication of crime syndicates. You must regain the full confidence and respect of our people. There are no ifs or buts about this.

I hereby direct the Chief PNP and all commanders down the line to place greater emphasis on crime prevention and internal discipline and training. In the process, I say: Improve your operational effectiveness. The hour is late. What we must do today should have been done yesterday. And we must also do today what we intend to put off until tomorrow.

With all working as one, the PNP, as a professional and service-oriented organization, I am certain, can stand up to all the challenges to it and prevail over them.

I am aware that the magnitude and the complexities of your problem must be matched by corresponding support. I know the need, perhaps more than any other official, to increase and upgrade the emoluments and benefits due the members of the PNP. And I assure that you are given support and my commitment to certify any bills, any legislative proposal towards this end. The same commitment stands for recommendations on your part to amend and improve Republic Act 6975, the basic charter of the Philippine National Police. [applause]

*On this day, fellow countrymen, I extend my heartfelt thanks to all the brave policemen who continue to serve our nation with honor. Continue your noble objective of proving that the PNP is a people- oriented police organization which the country can depend on. I hope you will protect with your entire heart and spirit your sworn duty against the people and elements that try to destroy it. Thank you all. Long live the PNP. Long live the Philippines.*

## Rebel Group Claims Ramos May Impose Martial Law

*HK0502130793 Manila DZXL Radio Mindanao Network in Tagalog 0700 GMT 5 Feb 93*

[Text] The National Democratic Front [NDF] today expressed fears over the latest political maneuvers of the Ramos administration.

In a statement sent to the media, the NDF said the Ramos government is showing signs that it plans to impose martial law. The NDF said the ongoing consolidation of the government into a constitutional authoritarian regime indicates the impending return of martial law.

The NDF said President Fidel V. Ramos is close to achieving constitutional authoritarianism because the two houses of Congress have become allies of Malacanang [presidential palace].

Meanwhile, the NDF urged the people to resist the calculated and sinister plans of the United States and Ramos to assume absolute political power.

### End of 'Special Relationship' With U.S. Seen

*HK0802040593 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 8 Feb 93 p 4*

[Editorial: "Death of a 'Special Relationship'"]

[Text] Former U.S. congressman Stephen Solarz, addressing the Makati Business Club, said that the challenge in Philippine-U.S. relations was "to demonstrate that we really meant it all along when we said that our relationship was based on much more than the bases."

There is a poignant tone to that one. Anyone who makes it a personal crusade to restore the luster of the "special relationship" between the Philippines and the U.S. might find better chances trying to raise Lazarus from the dead. The odds are immensely better in getting divorced couples to remarry than in putting together an alliance that has become historically obsolete. The "special relationship" cannot at all be compared to a romantic affair taking off from love at first sight. It was a relationship that began with mutual antagonism and ended with mutual suspicion. It was a relationship that began with war and ended at the break of peace. It was a marriage of inconvenience sealed at the point of a Krag [meaning unknown]. This marriage carried on despite its anomalies brought about by the absurd pragmatics of the Cold War.

The Philippines, in the eyes of Washington's strategists, was another unsinkable aircraft carrier that allowed "forward deployment" of war material to enforce the policy of "containment." The strategic value of the Philippine bases justified large aid packages, interventionist indiscretions, and immense tolerance for the eccentricities of Filipino politics.

The United States, in the eyes of timid Filipino leaders, provided us a "defensive umbrella" in a world that seemed teetering on the brink of nuclear self-destruction. The military cover, laced with grants and soft loans and sweetened with export quotas, seemed important enough for many Filipinos to justify unseemly violations of our privacy and the usurpation of our sovereignty.

Ours was an irritable marriage that taxed the dignities of both partners. But it was a marriage that, through the decades, wove its own myths and emitted a deceptive afterglow. For many years, intellectuals on both sides of the Pacific considered it fashionable to describe our bilateral affairs as a "love-hate" relationship. That interpretation unduly emphasized the sentimental aspects of the relationship and infused it with a certain naivete. It accommodated claims of altruism on the American side and Filipino propensity for the rituals of mutual obligation. This interpretation must now be subjected to unremitting revisionism.

It might be more fruitful to use the metaphor of two men finding themselves on the same boat in uncertain waters. The second man was brought to the boat by the first at gunpoint. Caught in the high winds of ideological polarization and rough waves of global confrontation, it was eventually in the interest of both to keep the boat afloat. In the close quarters of momentary alliance, both alternately appeased and manipulated the other for fleeting advantages without rocking the boat. Now that the boat has hit land, both men go their own ways, with neither much love nor much hate for each other.

Our alliance hit land when the Berlin Wall fell. We stepped out of the boat when, in a flash of historical recognition, the Philippine Senate rejected a treaty extending the lease on the bases. The Americans, rediscovering their backyard, found it in distress:

Solarz says that our "strategic relevance" has declined with the end of the Cold War and the withdrawal of the bases. That is an understatement. With the onset of a new world order, the premises of our strategic relevance to the U.S., with or without the bases, evaporated. So has the necessity, from our end, for a "defensive umbrella."

In a new world of trading blocs, "managed trade," anxieties over access to technologies and strategic resources, regional conflicts, and the resurgence of ethno-nationalism, there is little motive on both sides to return to the old boat of an irrelevant alliance. An unhealthy marriage between reluctant partners, a marriage that encouraged mendicancy, dependence and inequality, is now over. It was finally broken not by any sudden seizure of dislike but by the cumulatively changed circumstances of its global context.

The unwanted marriage bore offspring: More than a million Filipino-Americans and, lately, a clutch of Filipino World War II veterans who seem to have spent their lives aspiring for nothing else but a change in the color of their passports. But sentimentalism for things past will not revive the "special relationship."

## Thailand

### Editorial Views Clinton's Early Actions

*BK0802031193 Bangkok THE NATION in English 8 Feb 93 p A6*

[Editorial: "Though Uninspiring, Clinton Has Not Made Blunders Yet"]

[Text] President Bill Clinton is discovering that it's not that easy to change the course of American politics. Back in 1977 when Jimmy Carter had been in office for 10 days, political cartoonists had a field day depicting the US president taking America towards the brink of doom.

Now, 16 years later Clinton, who has been in office for slightly over two weeks, faces similar fierce criticism—not just from cartoonists, but in the opinion pages of newspapers as well.

This to an extent is Clinton's own fault. Before the elections he promised to focus "like a laser beam" on domestic issues, but so far has produced little. Pledges like tax reductions for the middle income group have been delayed, while the US Armed Forces can go on rejecting homosexuals.

Clinton must have thought it would be easy, as commander-in-chief, to tell the top brass to follow his orders and admit gays into the military. If he had served in the armed forces the new president might have known that such matters are far more complicated in the army and navy than outsiders realize.

As for Clinton's proposed reforms in health care, there has been little action beyond the appointment of Hillary Clinton, his wife, to head a task force on the issue.

Foreign policy has taken Clinton by surprise, immediately taking much of the US president's time. Though the president has been making individual decisions, it cannot be said that Clinton has made any mistakes in the field of international politics, a field in which he gained no experience whatsoever as governor of Arkansas.

Tensions with Iraq appear to have eased off somewhat and United Nations weapons inspectors have resumed their work in Baghdad. The Iraqi air force seems to be complying with the air exclusion zone, without the pressure of allied bombing.

As for the dispute between Israel and the Arab states, the United States can afford to take a little more time in trying to get all dissenting parties to the negotiating table. Clinton has made clear to the world the relationship the US intends to pursue with Israel and will veto any UN Security Council resolutions against the country in the eventuality that the world body wants to enforce UN Resolution 799. The Resolution ordered Israel to let 415 Palestinians deported seven weeks ago by Tel Aviv to a no-man's land south of Lebanon return home immediately.

The US-Israel compromise proposal last Monday, to let 100 of the Palestinians go back home and cut by half the expulsion term of the other 315, may not seem logical or just, but it stems from pragmatic political thinking.

Because of this deal between Washington and Tel Aviv, the new US Secretary of State, Warren Christopher, will have the opportunity to travel through the region before the resumption of another round of Middle East peace talks, which all parties except the Palestinians want to resume at all costs.

On the Yugoslav civil war, Clinton has managed to control his emotions, expressing sympathy with the Bosnian Muslims but limiting American involvement to allowing US jet-fighters to enforce the no-fly zone over the Bosnian capital of Sarajevo, as in the case of Iraq. Clinton has made it very clear there will be no commitment of US ground forces to support Nato troops already serving there as UN peacekeepers.

The Western European countries are trying to coerce the US into approving the Lord Owen-Cyrus Vance plan for Bosnia, which divides the ex-Yugoslav republic into 10 semi-autonomous provinces. The Clinton administration considers the plan impractical and unenforceable and maintains that it rewards so-called ethnic cleansing by assigning to the Bosnian Serbs some areas that they seized by driving out the Muslims.

European nations are reluctant to take action by themselves against Serbian atrocities in Bosnia, but surely it is unrealistic to force this kind of leadership responsibility on a US president whose term of office has only just begun.

Clinton's approach to foreign policy, so far, may not be inspiring but for the moment his actions are realistic and logical. On the domestic front however, the American people have to accept that they have voted for a president who cannot fulfill some of his election promises.

This is the kind of American president that the rest of the world has to get used to for the next four years. Bill Clinton has shown he isn't the kind of man to plunge into foreign adventures before he has had the time to grow into his new role as the leader of the world's only superpower in the post-Cold War era.

## Command Officer Comments on Cambodian Fighting

*BK0602142793 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 1200 GMT 6 Feb 93*

[Text] Deputy Supreme Commander General Prasoet Sararit said to newsmen that efforts would be made to prevent a new influx of Cambodian refugees into Thailand. He said that all the refugee camps had been closed and the areas developed for other uses. If we reopened the camps, they would pose a big burden. He said the refugees should be kept within the Cambodian border and not allowed to cross into Thailand.

About the fighting in Cambodia, the deputy supreme commander said Thailand stands to suffer some impact because it shares a common border with Cambodia. He wanted the fighting to end with a settlement reached through negotiations among the four Cambodian factions under the supervision of UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia]. He said the outcome of the general election will be an indication of the trend of events. He said that, according to the reports he had received, the current fighting was not on a large scale but involved only a small number of troops.

### Prasong Holds Talks With Brunei Counterpart

*BK0602070293 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 6 Feb 93*

[Text] Thailand and Brunei Darussalam agreed to strengthen their existing bilateral relations and cooperation. The issue was discussed between Brunei Darussalam foreign minister and the Thai Foreign Minister Squadron Leader Prosong Sunsiri, who is on the visit to Brunei Darussalm during February 3 to 4. Thailand has offered assistance for Brunei Darussalam in academic, technical, and economic matters. The Thai foreign minister also invited his Brunei counterpart to visit Thailand. The invitation was accepted.

### Visits Singapore, Meets Leaders

*BK0602084593 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0530 GMT 6 Feb 93*

[Text] The Thai Embassy in Singapore has reported on Foreign Minister Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri's official visit to that country from 4 to 6 February. According to it, the foreign minister called on Singapore Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong and held official consulations with the Singaporean foreign minister and the trade and industry minister.

The Singaporean prime minister noted the economic and investment cooperation between Thailand and Singapore. He said the ASEAN Free Trade Area will even promote greater cooperation. Singapore endorsed the Growth Triangle cooperation between Thailand, Malaysia, and Indonesia, which will benefit the region as a whole.

The Singaporean trade and industry minister said Singapore has a growing interest in investment in Thailand, Malaysia, and Indonesia. On this, Foreign Minister Prasong told Singapore that the Thai Government has a policy of supporting investment and the expansion of investment in rural areas for better income distribution, and this is in response to Singapore's desire to invest in Thailand. The Singaporean trade and industry minister said he wished to see tariff reduction among the ASEAN members as soon as possible.

On the question of Cambodia, Thailand and Singapore agreed that ASEAN should support a political settlement, and all factions of Cambodia must share responsibility for solving the problem. They also discussed problems arising after the general election in Cambodia. They expressed concern over the clashes between the Phnom Penh and Khmer Rouge forces and believed ASEAN should encourage all factions in Cambodia to forge unity among themselves and avoid making the situation worse.

### Returns From ASEAN Tour 7 Feb

*BK0702141693 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1200 GMT 7 Feb 93*

[Text] Foreign Minister Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri, who has returned from visiting leaders of the other ASEAN leaders, told reporters during an interview upon his arrival at Don Muang Airport that ASEAN leaders are now most concerned about the fighting inside Cambodia because it can further delay the peace process in that country.

[Begin Prasong recording] We talked about the military fightings in some areas. Leaders of the countries I visited expressed their concern over the matter and suggested that all related mechanisms including the United Nations work out measures to prevent the further aggravation of the problem because it can affect the scheduled election. [end recording]

### States ASEAN Stand on Cambodia

*BK0802023593 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 8 Feb 93 p 2*

[Text] ASEAN leaders maintain their stand on the Cambodian peace process and feel confident that they have lent support in the right direction, Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri said yesterday.

On his return from a week-long tour, the minister said his hosts believe they have acted in line with the ASEAN stand and will continue this path to help establish permanent peace in Cambodia.

ASEAN last month voiced formal support for the election of a president to help reinforce the peace process and welcomed Prince Norodom Sihanouk's January 8 decision to stand as a presidential candidate.

Squadron Leader Prasong visited Indonesia Brunei and Singapore as part of a traditional introductory tour. He called on his counterparts in the Philippines and Malaysia late last year.

ASEAN peace efforts "will be undertaken within the limits of ASEAN's role, without intervening in the decision-making of the four Khmer leaders", he stressed.

"We want to help create harmony among them (Cambodian factions) in the election which we hope will benefit the people and stability in the whole region," he said.

The past week's discussions looked forward to elections as well as the post-election period and it was agreed that ASEAN would monitor the situation closely, he said.

"We really wish to see an elected government that truly enjoys the mandate of its people."

But the talks did not cover the proposal for the United Nations to set up a buffer zone or related measures, he said.

The ground situation has been confusing and causing concern because it has been changing almost daily.

The talks largely centred on general principles, without pinpointing specific details.

The Cambodian situation could be raised at the annual meeting of ASEAN foreign ministers due to take place in Singapore in June, he said.

But ASEAN would leave decisions to the United Nations. Sqn Ldr Prasong said the ASEAN trip gave him an opportunity to meet several important figures of Singapore, Indonesia and Brunei, to clarify his stand, and exchange views on various issues of mutual interest.

He cited the possibility of eventual agreement on joint ventures in fishery, aviation, energy and tourism.

He said Thailand will not allow it to be used as a platform for any action against its neighbours.

The minister was asked to comment on the forthcoming show of solidarity for Burmese dissident Aung San Suu Kyi by Nobel Peace Prize laureates, planned during a February 16-20 visit to Thailand.

Thailand is a pro-democracy country and will grant an entry visa to anyone, he said.

He was apparently referring to the Dalai Lama, who was refused a visa to Thailand in late 1990, and who was originally expected to join the laureates in their visit to Thailand.

"It is not our policy to do anything against neighbouring countries," Sqn Ldr Prasong said.

"If they want to see me, I'm happy to listen to their comments and to explain our policy to them.

"They are all holders of the Nobel Peace Prize. I'm sure they are all mature enough to know what to do in our country," he said.

## Dalai Lama 'Unlikely' To Join Suu Kyi Campaign

*BK0602021193 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 6 Feb 93 pp 1, 3*

[Excerpts] The Dalai Lama is now unlikely to join other Nobel Peace Prize laureates in a planned show of solidarity for detained Burmese dissident Aung San Suu Kyi, according to organisers and supporters of the event.

A statement released here yesterday on behalf of the Canadian organiser denied the Dalai Lama would be taking part in the mission.

But an independent source close to supportive groups said it was still possible unofficial efforts may continue to gain the Tibetan spiritual leader's participation.

The Dalai Lama has given no word on the question, observers said.

The Montreal-based International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development is the recognised organiser of the event.

In a statement released on its behalf, communications consultant Laura Allen said the decision to "not include the Dalai Lama" followed the International Centre's discussions with Thai Foreign Ministry officials.

"I must state emphatically that it is the intention of the International Centre to fully respect the spirit of the International Centre's discussions with officials of the Thai Ministry of Foreign Affairs and not include the Dalai Lama in the Mission to Bangkok," she said.

She identified six other Nobel Laureates who would participate in the mission, which is planned for February 16-20.

They are former Costa Rica president Oscar Arias; Archbishop Desmond Tutu of South Africa; Malread Maguire and Betty Williams, leaders of a campaign to end the violence in Northern Ireland, Adolfo Perez Esquivel of Argentina; and Ross Daniel of Amnesty International.

Ms Allen's statement said the Swiss-Burmese Association, which cautioned Thailand against refusing an entry visa to the Dalai Lama, "does not represent the International Centre nor have they been mandated by the International Centre to make any representations whatsoever with respect to the activities in Thailand".

Her statement came after the Geneva-based Swiss-Burmese Association identified the Dalai Lama as among the participants and warned Thailand of the possible tarnishing of its "new image" if it refused him an entry visa.

Deputy Foreign Minister Surin Phitsuwan said yesterday he had not received the letter carrying the warning circulated here on Wednesday.

But he said there should be no objections "in principle" to the Dalai Lama's visiting the country and it would be an honour for Thailand to receive such an important figure.

The Thai Government in late-1990 barred the Tibetan leader from attending a gathering of Magsaysay award winners in what was seen as a decision to avoid upsetting China.

The clarification from the International Centre's communications officer backed up remarks made by Dr Pradit Charoenthaithawee, Rector of Mahidon University, which is assisting the International Centre in preparing the programme for the Nobel laureates.

Dr Pradit said he had "reached agreement" with the International Centre that the Dalai Lama would not be a participant.

He said he had informed the House Foreign Affairs Committee of this after receiving a number of queries on the question.

Mahidon University has announced plans to host a round-table conference on democracy featuring at least four Nobel laureates.

International Centre president Edward Broadbent told a press conference in Montreal yesterday the forthcoming solidarity action was the first such joint initiative by Nobel Peace Prize laureates.

He said the laureates had been denied entry visas into Burma and, as part of their programme in Thailand, they plan to have talks with Burmese refugees in the border district of Mae Sot. [passage omitted]

Organisers said the Nobel laureates would arrive in Bangkok "on and around February 16" for their four-day mission.

The tentative programme so far worked out calls for a trip to Mae Sot on February 18 and a press conference in Bangkok on February 19.

An audience has been sought with His Majesty the King as has a meeting with Prime Minister Chuan Likphai but neither have yet been confirmed, organisers said.

Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri last month said he would be willing to receive the laureates in Bangkok, but Thailand could not be used as a base for interfering in the "internal affairs" of Burma.

## Paper Criticizes Government Stand

*BK0602014393 Bangkok THE NATION in English 6 Feb 93 p A6*

[Editorial: "Let the Dalai Lama speak for Burma in Thailand"]

[Text] "No matter what part of the world we come from, fundamentally we are all the same human beings. We have the same basic needs and concerns. Furthermore, all of us human beings want freedom and the right to determine our own destiny as individuals," says Tenzin Gyatso, the 14th Dalai Lama, in his book Freedom in Exile. The Tibetan spiritual leader currently lives in exile in the Himalayan village of Dharamsala in India, after having forced to flee Lhasa in 1959, because of the Chinese who had earlier occupied the country illegally in 1950.

In Dharamsala, the Dalai Lama has devoted himself to rebuilding the shattered lives of his fellow Tibetan refugees and to promoting world peace through an unwavering policy of non-violence.

**Message of compassion**

The Dalai Lama's message of compassion, love and forgiveness has never failed to touch the hearts of many and because of this he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1989.

As a Buddhist monk, he harbours no ill-feelings towards the Chinese for overrunning Tibet and has often said in many of his speeches: "...one day there will be an end to my people's suffering at the hands of the People's Republic of China, for there are many hundreds of millions of Chinese, and whilst maybe several thousand are participating in acts of cruelty at any one moment, I believe there must be several million performing acts of kindness."

In 1967, the Dalai Lama made his first trip outside India, and one of the first countries he visited was Thailand. He has fond memories of our country and in Freedom in Exile, he says he found Thais "wonderfully easy going." His Majesty the King at that time even invited the Tibetan spiritual leader to lunch and at the royal audience received the Dalai Lama in total solidarity by shaking his hand warmly.

Early this week, the Dalai Lama was called upon by the Geneva-based Switzerland-Burma Association and the Montreal-based International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development to spread his message of truth, justice, freedom and democracy together with other Nobel Peace laureates in campaigning for the release of their fellow laureate Aung San Suu Kyi.

World Human Rights Day last December passed by on a sad note that Suu Kyi still remains in indefinite detention since she was placed under house arrest in July 1989 by the ruling Burmese military junta, the State Law and Order Restoration Council (Slorc). The evil that grips Burma through the Slorc has subjugated the Burmese people to a reign of terror and the despots in the military without any compunction whatsoever continue to flagrantly abuse human rights to silence any dissent.

That Thailand together with the rest of Asean cooperates with the illegal rule of Slorc by providing it with money through trade, weapons or diplomatic recognition—which allows the junta to perpetuate its repression—will rankle the mind of any civilized person. The bitter truth is that it is happening through Asean's so-called constructive engagement policy, and there no signs that the region's leaders are about to change that.

The irony however is that the Chuan administration came into power on a platform of promoting democracy and human rights, but once in office has adopted a business-as-usual attitude with Rangoon. This double-standard has certainly eroded Thailand's credibility in the eyes of many Western governments.

In 1990, the Thai government under the premiership of Chatchai Chunhawan refused to approve a visa to Thailand for the Dalai Lama, for fear of upsetting China, which was then supplying the country with weapons at "friendship prices". The Cold War has ended, but a leftover from that era in the form of former National Security chief Prasong Sunsiri now occupies the Foreign Ministry. Prasong warned the Nobel Peace laureates that they should not use Thailand as a "base to interfere in another country's domestic affairs." But constructive engagement by itself is interfering with the domestic affairs of Burma, because Thailand is cooperating with an occupying army that has been rejected by the people in the 1990 elections, and in the process preventing the pro-democracy movement from taking-off.

Agreed in principle Deputy Foreign Minister Surin Phitsuwan on Thursday said Thailand has agreed "in principle" to welcome the Dalai Lama, if he accompanies the Nobel Peace laureates here. Whether there is seriousness in Surin's statements is left to be seen as reliable sources indicate that the Dalai Lama has been requested not to apply for a visa to Thailand for fear of "embarrassing" Bangkok.

The Tibetan spiritual leader writes in his memoirs: "Chairman Mao once said that political power comes from the barrel of a gun. He was only partly right: power that comes from the barrel of a gun can be effective only for a short time. In the end people's love for democracy will triumph. No matter what governments do, the human spirit will always prevail."

We in Thailand, showed absolute disgust to that power last May at Ratchdamnoen Avenue. It's time to spread that democracy to neighbouring Burma under the brutal Slorc. The Dalai Lama is on a mission of freedom for the Burmese people and by no means should the Thai government prevent the Tibetan spiritual leader from campaigning for the release of Aung San Suu Kyi and for a free Burma.

### Paper Views Dalai Lama's Visit

*BK0702041093 Bangkok THE NATION in English 7 Feb 93 p A10*

[Editorial: "Why leave out Dalai Lama when he matters to Burma?"]

[Text] There is a continuing people's struggle in Burma to liberate themselves from humiliation, despair and degradation under the despotic military junta that rules the country through the State Law and Order Restoration Council (Slorc). Since July 1989, opposition National League for Democracy (NLD) leader Aung San Suu Kyi, the 1991 Nobel Peace prize winner, has been placed under house arrest by Slorc.

In 1990, the Slorc refused to honour the general elections in which NLD won the majority of seats, and the military that has its grip over the country today is an occupying force. Unfortunately, Thailand and other Asean countries cooperate with the illegal rule of Slorc by providing it with money through trade and diplomatic recognition by its "constructive engagement" policy.

Asean's rationale is this: "Talk to Slorc, trade with them, give them the incentive of improving their economy and they will become less monstrous." But Burmese repression has lasted for over 30 years, since Ne Win's military coup ended parliamentary democracy and directed the country along the "Burmese way to socialism." On the journey, one of Asia's richer nations, endowed with educated people and natural resources, has become one of the world's poorest.

When it comes to Burma, there is a sad reality: the Burmese people are tragically alone in their struggle.

What is the use of bringing Nobel Peace laureates to Thailand on a so-called peace mission and wishing success to the people in neighbouring Burma in their efforts to break away from the shackles of Slorc, if the main organizers of the event have shown that they are just going to pay lip service to human rights?

We have to express our outrage at the cowardice of the Montreal-based International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development for not including the Dalai Lama in the Feb 15 mission to campaign for the release Aung San Suu Kyi, for fear of upsetting Thailand if China turns on the screws. Earlier during the week, the Swiss-Burma Association in Geneva made known that the Dalai Lama was included in the mission, and an appeal to the Thai government to grant the Tibetan spiritual leader a visa to enter the country was made by the association.

The Swiss-Burma Association is involved in organizing a roundtable discussion in Geneva, on the plight of the Burmese people, from Feb 21-23, after the delegation of Nobel laureates completes its Thailand mission.

However on Friday, Laura Allen Communications (Thailand) on behalf of the International Centre in a press statement said "discussions with officials of the Thai Ministry of Foreign Affairs will be fully respected" and the Dalai Lama will not be included in the mission to Bangkok.

We are not undermining the importance of other Nobel laureates like Northern Ireland's Mairead Maguire and Betty Williams or Costa Rica's Dr Oscar Arias and Amnesty International's Ross Daniels, in the delegation. The point we are making is that the Tibetan and Burmese people share a similar suffering, and the presence of the Dalai Lama with his message of compassion and love for truth, justice, freedom and democracy, will be important to bridge that solidarity in the campaign for Aung San Suu Kyi's and Burma's freedom.

Tibet has been illegally occupied by the Chinese People's Liberation Army since 1950 and till today brutal repression continues and arrests without justification, beatings, torture, prison sentences and executions without trial characterize the behaviour of the Chinese authorities. In Burma, Slorc carries out its repression of the Burmese people with arms purchased from China.

"As a Buddhist monk, my concern extends to all members of the human family, and indeed to all suffering sentient beings," the Dalai Lama has often said in his speeches. It's because of this concern that he was awarded the 1989 Nobel Peace Prize. In 1990 his request for a visa to visit Thailand to attend a gathering of Magsaysay award winners was denied by the government then under Chatchai Chunhawan, because of Bangkok's ties with Beijing. At that time China was supplying Thailand with arms at "friendship" prices.

What is the point of the International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development having a Theatre of Commitment, if they refuse to dedicate themselves to the plight of the Burma by challenging Thailand's constructive engagement policy, and try to disguise that fact by playing with the emotions of the Burmese people. Because of this we can't help but say that the success of this so-called peace mission to campaign for Burma, will be gauged on how the Nobel Peace laureates as famous persons are treated by the Press in a big media campaign done in the name of Burmese suffering.

Frankly, the International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development is wasting an excellent opportunity to shame Slorc for its atrocities. We expected something more for the Burmese people and are sad to be disappointed.

### PRC Ties Said Unaffected by Visit

*BK0802024793 Bangkok THE NATION in English 8 Feb 93 p A1*

[Text] Thailand will the grant the Dalai Lama a visa to enter the country to campaign for the release of Aung San Suu Kyi in neighbouring Burma, together with other Nobel Peace laureates.

Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri said yesterday the decision to issue the Tibetan spiritual leader with a Thai visa will not affect Thailand's relations with China.

"Thailand is a free country, and the world community knows that we want to be friends with every country," he told reporters after returning from a three-nation tour of Indonesia, Brunei and Singapore.

According to a reliable source, the Dalai Lama was earlier "advised" not to apply for a visa for fear of embarrassing Thailand if China decided to protest.

In 1990, the Dalai Lama was refused a visa by the then government of Chatchai Chunhawan to attend a gathering of Magsaysay award winners. The Dalai Lama, Tenzin Gyatso, was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1989 for his universal message of love, compassion and forgiveness. The Tibetan spiritual leader currently lives in exile in the Himalayan village of Dharamsala in India after fleeing Lhasa in 1959 under pressure from the Chinese, who illegally occupied the country in 1950.

Prasong said he believed the laureates will know how to conduct themselves in Thailand when campaigning for Suu Kyi's freedom.

"I hope that while on their mission they will know the kinds of activities they can and cannot carry out in this country," he said.

Suu Kyi, the leader of the opposition National League for Democracy has been under house arrest by the Burmese military junta since July 1989.

Earlier, Prasong warned the Nobel laureates against using Thailand as a base to interfere in another country's domestic affairs.

Last Thursday, Deputy Foreign Minister Surin Phitsuwan said Thailand had agreed in principle to welcome the Dalai Lama if he accompanied the Nobel laureates to Bangkok. However Surin remained noncommittal when he said "Thailand still had to study the case."

The Dalai Lama's inclusion in the delegation due in the country on Feb 15 was confirmed by the Geneva-based Swiss-Burma Association early last week. In an appeal to the Foreign Ministry, the association in a fax said it would be regrettable if Thailand's new image is tarnished by a refusal to grant a visa to the Tibetan spiritual leader, who is highly respected not only in the Buddhist community but throughout the world.

On Friday however, the main organizer of the peace mission, the Montreal-based International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development through Laura Allen Communications, (Thailand), issued a statement claiming that the association had no authority to make any representations on the activities of the Nobel laureates in Thailand.

The International Centre said it would faithfully respect all discussions with officials from the Thai Foreign Ministry and not include the Dalai Lama in the mission to Bangkok.

The Swiss-Burma Association is the organizer of a roundtable discussion in Geneva from Feb 21 to Feb 23, after the delegation of Nobel laureates completes its Thailand mission.

The laureates who have confirmed their participation in the peace mission in Thailand from Feb 15 onwards are Northern Ireland peace campaigner Mairead Maguire and Betty William, South Africa's Bishop Desmond Tutu, Argentina's Adolpho Perez Esquivel, Costa Rica's Dr Oscar Arias and Amnesty International's Ross Daniels.

### Defense Minister on Border Meeting, Tanks

*BK0802100393 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0530 GMT 8 Feb 93*

[Text] Defense Minister General Wichit Sukmak briefed journalists on his meeting with Prime Minister Chuan Likphai at Government House this morning. He said he informed the prime minister about his visit tomorrow to Malaysia to attend the meeting of the Thai-Malaysian General Border Committee which will tackle issues concerning security along the Thai-Malaysian border. Asked whether there would be a restructuring of the committee, he said it depends on the decision to be made by a high-level committee already established by the two countries.

Asked about the cracks found in dozens of Stingray light tanks, the defense minister said the Army is looking into the weapon defects as this is its responsibility. He said this must be done thoroughly; the Army is not neglecting its responsibility. He said he was waiting for a report from the army on the results of the investigation. Gen. Wichit said that the quality of the Stingray may not be up to standard or there would be no problem with it. Asked in which way it was not good, he said the country manufacturing the tanks might be able tell us about the weapon defects.

Asked whether there would be a check of weapons as fighting is raging close to the Thai-Cambodian border, the defense minister said the Armed Forces are always checking weaponry on a routine basis in order to ensure efficiency.

### Army Chief Meets Lao Leaders During Visit

*BK0502140493 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1200 GMT 5 Feb 93*

[Text] On the second day of his visit to the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Army Commander in Chief General Wimon Wongwanit, accompanied by a delegation, called on Lao Defense Minister Lieutenant General Choummali Sai-gnason at the Lao Ministry of National Defense. Both sides agreed that a Thai-Lao committee on border security cooperation should be set up since it would contribute to a peaceful settlement of border problems through negotiations in the spirit of good neighborliness. During the talks, Lt. Gen. Choummali thanked the Thai Army for assistance given to the Armed Forces of Laos.

After the meeting, Gen. Wimon Wongwanit called on President Nouhak Phoumsavan of Laos at the Presidential Palace. The two shared a common view that peace should be established in the region through mutual understanding and an end to suspicion.

Before his return to Thailand, the Army chief visited the office of the Thai Army attache in Vientiane to boost the morale of officials and to stress to them the importance of their role as representatives of the Army in coordinating work with local agencies.

### To Visit Cambodia 9 Feb

*BK0702020793 Bangkok THE NATION in English 7 Feb 93 p A2*

[Text] Army Commander in Chief Wimon Wongwanit will visit Cambodia on Tuesday to observe the performance of Thai soldiers serving under the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (Untac).

Wimon will also meet Untac military chief Gen John Sanderson to ask about the performance of the Thai soldiers, he told reporters after presiding over the opening ceremony of the Lanna Golf Course in Chiang Mai province yesterday morning.

"I want to see my subordinates to see how they're doing there," Wimon said, adding that he will also ask the Untac military chief whether there is anything else Thailand can do to help Untac. Thai soldiers in Cambodia are army engineers making road improvements and clearing mines.

Asked whether Thai businessmen in Pailin would be protected by Thai soldiers if the situation worsened, Wimon said there were no Thai soldiers in the city.

However, Wimon said he believed those Thai businessmen wouid not be in any trouble because they live out in the battle areas.

"Anyway, they can come back to Thailand if they find it unsafe to stay there," he said.

The army chief said peace in Cambodia would depend on the Cambodian people themselves. The country's leaders should work towards reconciliation for the sake of the people, he added.

He said Thailand's duty is to try to persuade them to comply with the Paris Peace agreement and to hold legislative elections as soon as possible.

"If they don't want to do so, all we can do is simply urge them," he said.

## Vietnam

### Recent Meetings With U.S. MIA Experts Reported

*BK0602152193 Hanoi VNA in English 1442 GMT 6 Feb 93*

[Text] Hanoi VNA February 6—Vietnamese and US specialists in the search for Americans missing in action (MIA) in the Vietnam War met here on Feb.3-4 in a regular section. The two sides reviewed the recent investigation of 135 priority MIA cases. They noted with satisfaction that the target set for the investigation was achieved and that good results were obtained in many cases. They also highly valued the completion of the investigation on the information of 'live sightings' of American POW's in Vietnam given by the US side. So far investivation has been made on the total of 74 cases of reported 'live sightings'. The results have proved that no American POW's are living in Vietnam, and that all the reports are illintentioned. The US side highly appreciated Vietnam's cooperation in providing archives thereby helping the US side collect thousands of photos and documents, shedding more light to a number of MIA cases. The two sides agreed to conduct the 22nd joint research from February 25 to March 23, 1993, and discuss a number of technical measures to increase the effectiveness of their work in various fields concerned.

Lieutenant General Thomas Needham, head of the US specialists' delegation on behalf of the US Government, appreciated the Vietnamese Government and people, especially the local administrations and people, for their cooperations and assistance. The Vietnamese side affirmed its continuation of cooperation in the humanitarian spirit in order to solve the MIA issue soon. The American delegation left here for home yesterday.

### Return of U.S. MIA Remains Noted

*BK0802132993 Hanoi VNA in English 1319 GMT 8 Feb 93*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb. 8—Vietnam today returned to the US 14 sets of remains and personal effects of American servicemen missing in action during the Vietnam war.

The Vietnam office for searching of missing personnel said that these remains had been collected during the 21st joint Vietnam-US search and other searches conducted unilaterally by Vietnam.

Since March 1974, Vietnam has on 40 occasions returned to the US 516 sets of remains of American MIAs.

A representative of the US side highly appreciated the Vietnamese people and governments' humanitarian policy and their active cooperation in the search for American MIA's.

### Article Views Factors in Changing U.S. Ties

*BK0802033193 Bangkok THE NATION in English 8 Feb 93 p A6*

[Article by Kawi Chongkitthawon Entitled: "Vietnam Places Hopes on Clinton"]

[Text] Vietnam thinks the lifting of the trade embargo imposed upon it by the United States is still high on the agenda of the current Clinton Administration despite former president George Bush's inaction in removing the last stumbling block to full US-Vietnam normalization.

However, things might not seem that way. With President Bill Clinton, the American sentiment over the MiA/PoWS issue remains unchanged even though progress in the field over the recounting of missing Americans in action in Vietnam continues unabated.

Presently, it would seem hard for Vietnam to influence the US on ending the embargo which has been in force since the end of Vietnam war, as US-Vietnam ties rank low in priority in Washington, which is now more occupied with immediate crisises in the former Yugoslavia, Somalia and the Gulf.

As such, full normalization between the two countries would depend on Washington's attitude and calculations over the implications of such a move over the risk of losing some domestic support especially among families of Vietnam veterans.

Normal relations with the US is Vietnam's top most priority, as the country is moving rapidly in economic reforms. Hanoi desires loans and credits from international lending institutions, currently blocked by Washington and its ally, Japan.

Some of these realistic assessments and sentiments strongly prevail among Vietnamese participants who are attending the fourth round of the American-Vietnamese Dialogue beginning today in Lanai, Hawaii. This forum, organized by the Colorado-based Aspen Institute, is held every year to discuss US-Vietnam relations.

During their stopover in Bangkok over the weekend, Vietnamese people discussed informally in their private capacities the future of US-Vietnam normalization and the current trade embargo. They however asked that their names not be mentioned.

Now in the post-Cold War world, the relationship between the two countries can move along and progress without previous limitations posed by ideological differences. During the era of East-West detente, Washington ironically was playing the China card, and Vietnam was looked upon as a satellite of the Soviet Union. The Beijing-Moscow factor greatly affected American policy towards Asia.

Back in 1978 when the Carter administration was on the verge of full normalization with Vietnam, China's protestations turned out to be the main factor in pushing back the whole development. The Washington trip of China's most powerful leader, Deng Xiaoping, before Beijing struck at the Vietnamese border, indicated the extent of Chinese influence in US policy. At that time, Beijing was a real factor to be reckoned with.

But in the post-Cold War era with the world turning multi-polar strategic alliances among the world's major powers and their allies have changed a great deal. As one Vietnamese delegate put it: "Small countries can now be friends with all major powers without risking or polarizing their relations. When the Cold War was on, you could not make friends with your friend's enemies and vice versa. Now it is more open."

While external conditions are now conducive for the promotion of US-Vietnam ties, the American domestic factor remains the biggest obstacle. For non-Americans, it would be hard to gauge the American sentiment and how deep the so-called "Vietnam Syndrome" has permeated through society in the years following the end of the Vietnam War.

Conflicting signs however have been sent out by the Americans. In the latter half of this year, the US government amended domestic law and allowed American businessman to set up office in Vietnam and negotiate contracts, so long as the contracts are not implemented until the trade embargo is lifted.

But US-Vietnam ties have been held to hostage by the emotional issue of MiA/PoWs, with lobbyists from veteran groups demanding that normalization be halted until the remains of Americans unaccounted for in the

Vietnam War be found. Also, policy-makers in the Reagan and Bush administrations have had their reservations about normalizing relations with Hanoi.

It is understandable, said one of the Vietnamese delegates that Americans especially those who had lost their loved ones in the war, feel so emotional about the issue.

It's hard for any American leader to ignore this intense human feeling, he added.

One crucial question however stands out: Can the US ignore the normalization issue given Vietnam's new found support and recognition in the international markets.

In the past, the US trade embargo was backed by many allies especially Japan. Of late, even the pro-US Japan wants to pursue a different policy with Hanoi. Japan's aid resumption to Vietnam last year strongly illustrated Tokyo's defiance against the US handling of Vietnam.

American friends in Europe have also long moved into Vietnam with enthusiasm. Countries like France and Italy are playing leading roles in trade and investment there. At the same time, Asean countries are competing with Taiwan, South Korea and Hong Kong in making the most out of Vietnam's economy.

If the US trade embargo is not lifted soon, the Vietnamese delegates maintained that American business will lose out on tremendous trade and investment opportunities in their country.

They are hopeful that the international environment, which is supportive of Vietnam, will be a factor that the Clinton Administration will take into consideration along with the domestic factor in determining the future course of their relations.

The Hawaii dialogue, sponsored by the Ford Foundation, will last four days. The Vietnamese delegation is led by Deputy Foreign Minister Le Mai and top officials from various government agencies and instutions. The most prominent among them are Lu Minh Chau, vice chairman of State Comminee for Cooperation and Investment and Vu Huu Ngoan, deputy Director of the Institute of Marxism-Leninism and Tran Van Phac, vice chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee of the National Assembly.

Eight members of Congress will lead the discussion on the American side. They are Senator John Kerry, Senator Mark Hatfield, Senator Daniel Akaka, Senator Frank Murkowski, Senator Larry Pressler, and Congressmen Tom Lantos, Rover Torricelli, and Henry Waxman. A group of Asia advisors of the Clinton Administration will also take part in the discussion.

The Vietnamese delegates said that the informal gathering would allow them to discuss freely, without any inhibition, problems and prospects in their bilateral ties. Moreover, they said the forum would serve to identify issues on US-Vietnam ties and ways to promote their relations while awaiting the lifting of the trade ban.

## Foreign Minister Meets ROK Counterpart

*BK0502153393 Hanoi VNA in English 1505 GMT 5 Feb 93*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb. 5—Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam paid an official visit to the Republic of Korea from Feb. 2-4, 1993 at the invitation of ROK Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok.

The Vietnamese diplomat held talks with Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok on the development of relations between Vietnam and the Republic of Korea. The two ministers expressed their satisfaction at the recent development of the economic, commercial, scientific and technical cooperation between the two countries. The two sides exchanged views and agreed on the directions and measures aimed at further strengthening the cooperation and friendship between the two countries in the coming period.

Foreign minister Yi Sang-ok informed his guest that the ROK Government will grant Vietnam 50 million US dollars in the first drive of development aid through the economic development cooperation fund (EDCF) of the ROK, and affirmed that his goverment will consider the next drive.

The ROK has also decided, through the Export-Import Bank of the ROK, to loan Vietnam 120 million US dollars with preferential terms for the import of equipment and materials.

The two sides agreed on concrete measures to implement the agreements on non-refund aid and technical aid that the ROK has agreed to give Vietnam. They also agreed that the ROK would help Vietnam train and raise the level of its experts and build job- training establishments in Vietnam.

The two ministers signed an agreement on economic-technical cooperation between the two governments, and agreed that the two sides would coordinate their active preparations for the signing in the near future of agreements on investment promotion and guarantee, on avoidance of double taxation, commerce, aviation, maritime transport, etc., aimed at creating the basis and conditions for long-term cooperation.

While in the ROK, Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam had working sessions with the energy minister, the industry and trade minister, the natural resources minister and the minister of science and technology, met with leaders and representatives of many companies and corporations exchanged views with the trade promotion association, and the Korea-Vietnam Friendship and Cooperation Association.

Vietnamese Charge d' Affaires A.I. in the ROK Nguyen Phu Binh took part in the delegation's activities.

## Commentary Reviews Relations With ROK

*BK0502135893 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 4 Feb 93*

[Station commentary]

[Text] After 15 years of friendship, Vietnam and the Republic of Korea have established a partnership of mutual benefit. The setting up of the Vietnamese Embassy in Seoul late last year has seen relations between the two countries steadily develop. This also includes the recent visit to the Republic of Korea by Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam.

Following that visit, the two countries signed an agreement on economic and techological cooperation. They have also discussed the signing of other agreements on investment guarantees, trade, and aviation and an agreement to avoid double taxation.

According to REUTER from Seoul, the Republic of Korea has already agreed to send U.S. $500,000 a year to Vietnam in interest-free loans in four years from 1993. Early this week, Vietnam and the Republic of Korea held the first joint meeting of the Vietnam-Korea and Korea-Vietnam economic cooperation committee. The two sides agreed to develop stronger economic ties between the two countries.

It is likely that the Vietnam-Republic of Korea friendship will continue to grow this year, contributing to peace and security in the region and the rest of the world.

## Leaders Receive Japanese Economic Delegation

*BK0502145793 Hanoi VNA in English 1444 GMT 5 Feb 93*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb. 5—The visiting delegation of the Japanese-Vietnamese Economic Committee under the Japan Federation of Economic Organization (Keidanren) led by Akira Nishio, chairman of Nissho Iwai and chairman of the committee, this afternoon paid a courtesy visit to General Secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee Do Muoi.

General Secretary Do Muoi welcomed the delegation's visit as a contribution to the development of the economic relations between the two countries. He expreseed the wish for stronger investment in Vietnam by Japanese businesses and for expansion of Japan's economic and trade cooperation with Vietnam for the benefits of both countries as well as of the region.

The same day the Japanese delegation called on President Le Duc Anh.

During the two visits, Mr. Akira Nishio expressed Japanese businessmen's wish for promotion and expansion of economic cooperation between the two countries and their hope that Japan would become one of the big investors in Vietnam in the not distant future.

## Vo Van Kiet Receives Japanese Businessman

*BK0502152393 Hanoi VNA in English 1511 GMT 5 Feb 93*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb. 5—Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet received in Ho Chi Minh City this morning T. Mike Tsuchiya, president of the Japanese Group Nissho Iwai and director of the Nissho Iwai branch in the United States, who called on him on the occasion of a Nissho Iwai delegation's visit to Vietnam.

The group now accounts for one-third of the trade value between the two countries. The group's Vietnam visit aims to seek possibilities for expanding commercial relations through more diversified import-export lines and long terms contracts. The president said that Vietnam is a big market. Vietnam's products such as garments, leather, rice, vegetables and fruits are highly appreciated in many countries, including those in Africa, South America and the United States.

In the immediate future, Vietnam gives priority to cooperation projects which can make use of the abundant natural resources and labour forces of the country for this is a good ooportunity for Nissho Iwai and other business corporations of Japan to develop mutually beneficial cooperation between the two countries. The Vietnamese Government will create favourable conditions for Japan's economic groups to carry out well the contracts they have signed or will sign with their Vietnamese partners.

## Hanoi Said Upbeat About Mitterrand's Visit

*BK0802051193 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 8 Feb 93 p 7*

[Article by Suphaphon Kanyawirothin and Anurat Maniphan: "Hanoi Hopes Mitterrand's Visit Will End Isolation"]

[Text] French President Francois Mitterrand arrives in Hanoi tomorrow for a visit that Vietnam hopes will speed up the removal of the US economic embargo which has stalled post-war reconstruction.

Mr Mitterrand on Thursday continues to Cambodia, where he is expected to be assertive as France was a principal co-author and signatory of the peace agreement now being defied .

Because the removal of the US embargo—the most punishing aspect of which is the freeze on international lending—is of crucial importance to Vietnam, officials stress the international significance of the president's visit.

But there are certainly bilateral aspects, with French interest in the visit spanning economic and cultural life.

The president is accompanied by French businessmen, many of whom will forego the Cambodia leg of the tour in order to spend more time exploring opportunities in Vietnam. France also wants Vietnam to join its francophone community.

In Vietnam, the president is due to visit Dien Bien Phu, where the defeat of French troops on May 7, 1954 ended France's hold over Indochina, one that had been in place since the late 19th century.

Plans revealed last week called for the president's guide to Dien Bien Phu to be none less than General Vo Nguyen Giap, the national hero behind Vietnam's historic triumph.

Hanoi is delighted about the trip scheduled for Wednesday. In the words of the Director of the Foreign Ministry's European Department Nguyen Manh Dung, it would mark "utter reconciliation between the two countries." Both sides are said to have lost thousands of men in the 57-day battle.

Before leaving for the historic battle site, Mr Mitterrand is scheduled to be received in Hanoi by Vietnamese President Le Duc Anh, Communist Party Secretary-General Do Muoi and Former Prime Minister Pham Van Dong.

After visiting Dien Bien Phu, he flies south to Vietnam's economic capital in Ho Chi Minh City.

In Cambodia, President Mitterrand is to due to visit the 12th century temple city at Angkor Wat and have an audience with Cambodian leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk.

The discussion in Cambodia is likely to cover the question of presidential elections, even though the expected winner, Prince Sihanouk, has cautioned Mr Mitterrand against raising a subject he maintained exclusively concerns himself and his "conscience."

France put forward its proposal for early presidential elections after the prince let it be known some time ago that he would like to be a popularly-elected president, if at all.

After voicing preference for early presidential elections and later opting for simultaneous presidential and legislative election, the prince over the week-end reiterated that the president could not be elected until after the constitution is promulgated by the new parliament.

The latest position came after France voiced support for a proposal from Phnom Penh for a presidential election to be held on April 5. Legislative elections to be organized by the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) have been set for May 23-25.

The presidential race is not provided for under the peace agreement signed in Paris on October 23, 1991. But it is supported by ASEAN, China and Australia as a means of ensuring a measure of stability in the country during the transfer of power to an elected government.

France co-chairs the Paris International Conference on Cambodia (PICC) that spearheaded moves towards the peace process being defied by the Khmer Rouge refusal to disarm and fighting between them and Phnom Penh forces since late last month.

Mr Mitterrand is the second French head of state to visit Indochina since the late president Charles de Gaulle visited Cambodia in 1966.

Businessmen and journalists join ministers in the presidential delegation that is estimated at 200-strong and is touring the region just weeks before parliamentary elections in France.

France ranks third among foreign investors in Vietnam, with capital commitments estimated at $322 million, according to Vietnamese statistics.

Culturally, France already has set up an Alliance Francaise in Hanoi and is running a French-Vietnamese management training centre. It wants to further enhance its influence over education and health care and draw Vietnam to its now 46-country strong francophone community.

"Through France, Vietnam can reach out to the European community, to the franco-phonic global community," commented a veteran European diplomat in Hanoi.

Vietnamese officials stress the international significance of Mr Mitterrand's visit by pointing out that he is the first Western head of state to visit them since the end of the Vietnam war in April 1975.

The emphasis is understandable in view of the strong desire for the removal of the US embargo, first imposed on what was then North Vietnam in 1964 and the rest of the country after the fall of Saigon.

France since 1991 has tried to arrange bridging loans to help Vietnam pay arrears amounting to some $140 million so that it can qualify for new loans with the International Monetary Fund (IMF). But US opposition has thwarted the French attempt.

Japan's decision in November to resume Official Development Assistance to Vietnam—by announcing a 45.5 billion yen commodity loan—however has set a new trend.

In a related development, a large Keidanren (Japan Federation of Economic Organisations) delegation participated in the first Vietnam-Japan joint economic conference in Hanoi last week.

The French President's visit further serves to bring Vietnam out of isolation from the international community while underlining the US departure from the norm, Vietnamese note.

"This historic event shows that Vietnam is being embraced by the West" while the US is "lagging behind" by its conspicuous absence, a government official said.

"I don't think America would tolerate a peripheral place off the fray" as France, Japan and South Korea step up their presence in Vietnam, another official added.

The French president's visit "goes to show that the American embargo cannot prevent anybody else from coming to Vietnam," a prominent intellectual added.

"We advocate closure of the past and look to the future," he added.

But Vietnamese officials at the same time are aware of PresidentBill Clinton's priorities and do not rule out the possibility of the embargo remaining in place for another several months.

They point to his commitment to revive the US economy and participate in solving problems in the Middle East, Yugoslavia and Southeast Asia.

ASEAN diplomats who recently met senior US government officials quoted them as indicating that the end of this year was the earliest possible date for President Clinton to address the issue.

If this is the case, President Mitterrand's visit is important to Vietnam, which needs all the help it can get.

## AIPO Delegation Visits Ho Chi Minh City

*BK0502151593 Hanoi VNA in English 1432 GMT 5 Feb 93*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb. 5—The delegation of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Organisation (AIPO) led by Tan Sri Dato Mohamed Zahir, AIPO president and chairman of the house of representatives of the Malaysian Parliament, left here this morning for Ho Chi Minh City.

While in Hanoi, the delegation paid tribute to President Ho Chi Minh at his mausoleum, and visited his home and office.

The delegation met with the Foreign Ministry, the Ministry of Commerce and the State Committee for Cooperation and Invesment, visited the army museum, the Thang Long Tailoring Enterprise, the Hoa Binh Hydro-Electric Power Plant and other cultural and economic establishments.

## Amendments to Foreign Investment Law Detailed

*BK0502104793 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 5 Jan 93 p 3*

["Text" of the bill "Amending and Supplementing a Number of Articles in the Law on Foreign Investment in Vietnam" passed on 23 December 1992 by the Ninth National Assembly at its second session in Hanoi]

[Text]—Pursuant to Articles 103 and 106 of the 1992 SRV Constitution.

—Pursuant to Article 78 of the Law on the National Assembly.

On 2 January, President of the State Le Duc Anh signed a decree promulgating the Bill on Amendments and Supplements to a Number of Articles of the Law on Foreign Investment in Vietnam, which was passed by the SRV Ninth National Assembly at its second session on 23 December 1992.

This law is designed to promote investments by foreign organizations and persons in Vietnam and Vietnamese trade enterprises belonging to various economic components in an effort to expand investment partnership with foreign countries.

—Based on Articles 24, 25 and 84 of the 1992 SRV Constitution, this law amends and supplements a number of articles of the Law on Foreign Investment in Vietnam that was passed by the SRV National Assembly on 29 December 1987, and later amended and supplemented on 30 June 1990.

Article I: The following articles of the Law on Foreign Investment shall be amended and supplemented:

1. Article 2 shall be amended and supplemented as follows:

a. Point 2 shall be amended as follows:

—'2) "The Vietnamese partners" [Been Vietnam] refers to the party consisting of one or more trade enterprises belonging to variour economic components.'

b. The following points shall be added:

—'13. "Processing Zone" [Khu Chees Xuaats] refers to an industrial complex which specializes in the processing of goods for export and in providing services for the processing of exports and for export-related activities, and which consists of one or more enterprises set up by the government with definite geographical boundaries.

—'14. "Processing enterprise" [Xis Nghieep Chees Xuaats] refers to an enterprise which is set up to operate within the compound of a processing zone.

—'15. "Contract To Build Transferable Businesses" [Howpj Dqoongf Xaay Duwngj Kinh Doanh Chuyeenr Giao] refers to a document signed between a foreign organization or person and an authoritative Vietnamese state organ to build, exploit, and deal in infrastructure-related projects during a given period. After that period, the relevant foreign organization or person shall transfer that project without compensation to the Vietnamese Government.'

2. Paragraph 2 [Dqoanj 2] [as published] of Article 7 shall be amended and supplemented as follows:

'The authorized capital contribution by a Vietnamese partner in a joint venture may be made in the form of the following assets:

—'1. Vietnamese currency, foreign currency.

—'2. Natural resources stipulated by the Vietnamese Government.

—'3. Building materials, equipment, and other facilities.

—'4. Rights to the use of land, water bodies, and sea surface as stipulated by the Vietnamese Government.

—'5. Houses, factories, other buildings, equipment, machinery, tools, and spare-part components.

—'6. Services for the construction and comissioning of a plant, patents, technical know-how, technological processes, and technical services.'

3. The following paragraph shall be added to the end of Article 8:

'With regard to the important economic organizations as defined by the government, the partners involved shall reach an agreement to allow their Vietnamese partner to gradually increase his share of the authorized capital in the joint venture.'

4. The following paragraph shall be added to the end of Article 14:

'As the government decides, Vietnamese trade enterprises, on the basis of a compromise reached with the owners of the important economic enterprises concerned, can gradually buy back the shares of these important economic enterprises.'

5. Article 15 shall be amended and supplemented as follows:

'Article 15: The length of service of an enterprise with foreign invested capital shall be decided by the government on a project-by-project basis and shall not exceed 50 years.

'Based on the stipulations of the National Assembly Standing Committee, the government may decide on a longer period for each particular project but not exceeding 70 years at the most.'

6. Article 17 shall be amended and supplemented as follows:

'Article 17: An enterprise with foreign invested capital can open Vietnamese and foreign currency accounts with a Vietnamese bank, a joint venture bank, or with branches of foreign banks established in Vietnam.

'Under special circumstances approved by the State Bank of Vietnam, an enterprise with foreign invested capital can obtain loans from banks in foreign countries.'

7. Articles 19a and 19b shall be added as follows:

'Article 19a:
'Foreign organizations or persons can invest in various processing zones in Vietnam under various forms as stipulated in Article 4 of this law.

'Vietnamese trade enterprises belonging to various economic components can cooperate with foreign organizations or persons to invest in processing zones under the various forms stipulated in Points 1 and 2 of Artice 4 of this law. They can also set up wholly (100-percent) owned enterprises.

'Barter trade relations on the Vietnamese marketplace between trade enterprises and processing enterprises shall be regarded as export-import relations and shall comply with stipulations in the export-import law.

'The government shall issue documents on the statutes [qui chees] for processing zones and processing enterprises.

'Article 19b: Foreign organizations and persons investing in the building of infrastructure-related projects in Vietnam can sign contracts to build transferrable businesses with authoritative Vietnamese state organs. These foreign organizations and persons shall be entitled to all the privileges accorded to them and shall comply with the obligations stipulated in the relevant contracts.

'The government shall map out specific stipulations governing investments made under the contracts to build transferable businesses.'

8. The following paragraph shall be added to the end of Article 21:

'In cases where changes to the stipulations of the Vietnamese law affect the interests of the partners in a business contract or a licensed business enterprise with foreign capital, the state shall take the appropriate steps to protect the interests of the investors concerned.'

9. The following paragraph shall be added to the end of Article 17:

'As for enterprises with 100 percent foreign capital, whenever investment promotion is necessary, the government shall decide to provide them with preferences in accordance with stipulations in Paragraphs 1 and 2 of this article.'

10. The following Article 35a shall be added:

'Article 35a: A processing enterprise shall be entitled to:

'1. Exemption from export and import taxes for goods exported by an export processing zone to a foreign country and goods imported by it from a foreign country.

'2. Preferential tax rates as stipulated in Articles 28 and 33 of this law. The government shall determine preferential tax rates for each type of processing enterprise.'

11. Paragraph 2 of Article 36 shall be amended and supplemented as follows:

'The State Organ for Management of Foreign Investment shall have the following rights and responsibilities:

'1. To guide foreign and Vietnamese partners in the negotiation and conclusion of business contracts, joint venture contracts, and contracts to build transferable businesses; to guide foreign organizations and persons in the establishment in Vietnam of private enterprises with 100-percent foreign capital; and to act as a focal point for the settlement of all matters at the request of foreign investing organizations or persons.

'2. To consider and approve business contracts, joint venture contracts, and contacts to build transferable businesses; authorize the establishment by foreign organizations or persons of private enterprises with 100-percent foreign capital; and to approve the statutes for enterprises with foreign capital.

'3. To decide and grant preferences to an enterprise with foreign capital and its foreign partner operating under a joint venture.

'4. To monitor and control the execution of business contracts and the operations of enterprises with foreign capital.

'To analyze the economic activities of the enterprises with foreign capital.'

12. The word "the Council of Ministers" shall be changed into "the Government."

'Article II: The government shall amend and supplement those documents providing detailed stipulations for the execution of the Law on Foreign Investment in Vietnam in such a way as to suit this amendment law.'

This law was passed by the Ninth National Assembly at its second session on 23 December 1993.

[Signed] Nong Duc Manh, chairman of the National Assembly

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### Assembly Standing Committee Issues Communique

*BK0602065393 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 5 Feb 93*

["Communique of the National Assembly Standing Committee" issued on 5 February in Hanoi]

[Text] The National Assembly Standing Committee met on 29-30 January and 1-4 February under the chairmanship of National Assembly Chairman Nong Duc Manh. Attending was State President Le Duc Anh.

1. The National Assembly heard reports by representatives of the government, the Supreme People's court, and the Supreme People's Organ of Control on the implementation of National Assembly resolutions at its recent second session.

The National Assembly Standing Committee noted a number of initial results obtained by the government, the Supreme People's Court, and Supreme People's Organ of Control in implementing the National Assembly's resolution on tasks for 1993.

The National Assembly subscribed to various practical measures aimed at promptly and effectively carrying out work related to socioeconomic development, the state budget, national defense, external relations, legislation, and especially the supervision of the implementation of the 10 major tasks in the government's work program and the investigation, prosecution, and adjudication of serious cases of corruption and smuggling.

The National Assembly Standing Committee noted that the 1993 tasks set by the National Assembly are very heavy and cannot be fulfilled unless extraordinary efforts are made by all echelons and sectors.

The government, the Supreme People's Court, the Supreme People's Organ of Control, and other sectors concerned must concentrate on directing the implementation of all plans and tasks. They must coordinate closely with the Vietnam Fatherland Front Central Committee and its member organizations in implementing all tasks, especially those in legislation and law enforcement as well as in the struggle against corruption and smuggling.

The National Assembly Standing Committee passed its work program for 1993; the work assignment chart for the compilation, examination, and formulation of various draft laws in the 1993 legislation program; the resolution stipulating the appelations of various draft laws and drafting regulations for 1993; and the work assignment chart for the compilation and examination various draft laws under these appelations.

The National Assembly Standing Committee examined and contributed its views on the work programs of the Nationalities Council and other National Assembly committees.

The National Assembly Standing Committee requested that the government, the Supreme People's Court, and the Supreme People's Organ of Control study, adjust, and supplement their work programs with essential matters. At the same time, they should coordinate with the Nationalities Council and other committees of the National Assembly and all responsible echelons and sectors to satisfactorily prepare various matters to be examined, passed, or submitted to the National Assembly by the National Assembly Standing Committee itself.

2. The National Assembly Standing Committee heard a report presented on behalf of the government by the minister of finance on the estimates of state budgetary allocation, revenue, and the expenditure for all sectors and localities in 1993 and the views of the standing body of the National Assembly economic and budgetary committee on this issue.

The National Assembly Standing Committee noted that compared with previous years, progress has been made in work related to state budgetary allocation, revenue, and expenditure in 1993.

In implementing the National Assembly's resolution on the state budgetary estimates for 1993, the government has promptly formulated the principles, methods, and specific plans for the allocation of budgets to all sectors and localities.

The National Assembly Standing Committee reminded the government that in managing the 1993 state budget, it must go by the National Assembly's resolution on the state budget for 1993. It must also ensure that the revenue is acquired correctly and in full and that a mechanism encouraging the development of production and business activities is established to create additional sources of revenue for the state budget. It must also devise measures to strictly practice thrift and rigorously control and effectively ensure all expenditure. The government must ensure that budgets are distributed to all sectors and localities equitably and fairly, on the basis of a thorough understanding of all views and policies of the party and state and the National Assembly resolutions.

Persuant to Article 80 of the law on the National Assembly, the National Assembly Standing Committee also presented its views on 1992 budgetary expenditure and 1993 budget estimates in support of the National Assembly's activities.

3. After hearing a government representative report on the draft ordinance on flora protection and quarantine; an investigative report by a representative of the National Assembly Science, Technology, and Environment Committee; and the views of a National Assembly Judiciary Committee representative, the National Assembly Standing Committee discussed and passed this draft ordinance.

The promulgation of the ordinance on flora protection and quarantine is aimed at increasing the efficiency of state management, intensifing the elimination and prevention of harm to the country's vegetal resources, contributing to the protection and its development, and protecting the people's health and the ecological environment.

4. After hearing a government report on the draft ordinance on veterinary work, an investigative report by the National Assembly Science, Technology, and Environment Committee, and the views presented by the National Assembly Judiciary Committee, the National Assembly Standing Committee discussed and passed this draft ordinance.

The ordinance on veterinary work creates an essential legal basis for putting the prevention and control of epizootics onto the right track. This would contribute to the development of animal husbandry and ensure high-quality animal products for domestic consumption and export.

5. The National Assembly Standing Committee heard a government report on the draft law on publication and the views presented by the standing bodies of the National Assembly Culture, Education, Youth, Teenager, and Children Committee and Judiciary Committee on this draft law.

Under the present situation, the formulation of a new publication law is necessary. It is aimed at helping to restore order and discipline in this area and creating a legal basis for the development of the country's publication work. The draft law on publication must be implemented in such a way as to meet the need for improving the quality and efficiency of publication work, as well as to manifest the spirit of renovation of the 1992 constitution concerning freedom of speech in general and freedom of the press in particular.

The National Assembly Standing Committee contributed views on the draft law on publication and assigned the government and the National Assembly Culture, Education, Youth, Teenager, and Children Committee and Judiciary Committee to retune this draft law for further consideration by the National Assembly Standing Committee before submitting it to the National Assembly at its third session.

6. The National Assembly contributed views on preparatory work for a national congress on People's Councils, as well as on a number of issues concerning the need to ensure favorable conditions for delegations of National Assembly deputies from various provinces and cities directly subordinate to the central government to carry out their activities.

## Vatican Envoy: Priests Not To Join Politics

*BK0702072493 Hong Kong AFP in English 0555 GMT 7 Feb 93*

[Text] Hanoi, Feb 7 (AFP)—A Vatican envoy ended a week-long visit to Vietnam on Saturday by admonishing the country's Roman Catholic priests not to join state-run political organizations.

"The Holy See is always reminding (Catholics) of the principles of the Second Vatican Council about priests not meddling in politics," Monsignor Claudio Celli said. "The participation in humanitarian projects (is proper), but not in politics."

Celli, a Vatican deputy foreign minister, had been asked whether the Vatican still barred priests from joining the Council of Union of Vietnamese Catholics, a mass organization belonging to the Communist Party's Fatherland Front.

The Vatican directed priests last May not to join the union, to which all six million Vietnamese Catholics are required by Vietnamese authorities to belong.

Celli also discussed the appointment of archbishops and bishops to vacant dioceses. Vietnamese authorities insist on approving the appointment, and as a result Vietnam has been without a cardinal since the 1990 death of the archbishop of Hanoi.

He visited a seminary in Vinh, highlighting the demand of Vietnamese bishops to be allowed to train more men for the priesthood and women to be nuns.

Celli said his talks with Vietnamese state and religious authorities produced progress, though he gave no concrete examples during a brief talk with journalists before leaving for Laos.

"We have come up with some conclusions that might be considered initially positive. What we expect is something more. You know, when we are talking about the freedom of the Church certainly it means something more. But we must situate ourselves in the actual reality," the veteran diplomat said.

Vietnam's Roman Catholic Church, viewed with suspicion by Hanoi for its origins under French colonial rule and links with the defunct Saigon regime, is experiencing a renaissance amid a cautious liberalization of Hanoi's religious policy in the past two years.

Celli welcomed the new policy, but said it was "still too early" to consider a visit by the Pope to Vietnam, which has the second-largest Roman Catholic population in Asia after the Philippines.

## Delegation of Educators Visits China

*BK0602144793 Hanoi VNA in English 1426 GMT 6 Feb 93*

[Text] Hanoi VNA February 6—A delegation of the Vietnamese Ministry of Education and Training led by Minister Tran Hong Quan is paying a 10-day visit to China as guest of China's State Committee for Education. The delegation has had working session with Vice Chairman of the State Committee for Education Teng Teng. The two sides signed a document of educational cooperation between the two organizations in 1993-1994. The delegation was received in Bejing on Jan.3 by Li Tieying, politburo member of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and charman of the State Committee for Education. During the reception, Mr. Li expressed his wish for the further strengthening and broadening of the educational cooperation between the two countries. The delegation called on a number of research and teaching institutions in Bejing. On Feb.4 it toured Shanghai, Shenzhen and Guangzhou.

## Australia

### Keating Under Pressure as Speaker Resigns

*BK0702032093 Hong Kong AFP in English 0236 GMT 7 Feb 93*

[By Tim Cribb]

[Text] Sydney, Feb 7 (AFP)—Prime Minister Paul Keating's re-election chances were dealt a serious blow at the weekend amid the fallout from the resignation of speaker Leo McLeay.

Commentators were unanimous in declaring the McLeay affair a disaster for the government, underscoring the knife-edge Keating and the Australian Labor Party (ALP) are walking with a general election to be called within weeks.

McLeay resigned Friday as the conservative opposition intensified pressure for a parliamentary enquiry into a 65,000 Australian dollar (44,000 U.S.) compensation payment he received for a bicycle accident.

In a statement, McLeay said: "I believe the opposition's unrelenting media campaign against me is damaging the ALP's chances of re-election. I reiterate that there has been no wrongdoing on my part."

McLeay, Labor's speaker in the House of Representatives, the lower chamber of Australia's bicameral federal parliament, has been a target for vitriolic attack by the Liberal-National Party opposition coalition, which believes it can end Labor's 11-year political rule at elections widely expected to be held April 3.

The McLeay affair has caused considerable damage to the government, which has lost the political initiative over the past two weeks.

And Keating has been tainted, as McLeay had derived his political support from the powerful right-wing Labor Party machine in New South Wales, the very faction the prime minister relies upon as his powerbase within the often divisive ALP.

McLeay is regarded as a factional "mate" of Keating, and with former environment minister Graham Richardson was an important figure in the NSW branch.

Richardson was forced to resign from the ministry over the so-called Marshall Islands affair last May, which centred on allegations he attempted to use his political influence to help a relative arrested for fraud.

Opposition leader John Hewson used McLeay to step up his pre-election attack on the government.

The speaker's business affairs came under scrutiny late last week with revelations he had supplied to parliament wrong information about a company with which his family was associated and implicated in Labor Party machinations.

As speaker, McLeay was constantly accused by the opposition of being partisan and his inability to control rowdy debate in the House of Representatives was a point of frequent criticism.

Commentators called the McLeay affair a "political disaster" for the Keating government.

Geoff Kitney, chief political correspondent for the Sydney Morning Herald, wrote: "The cynicism among voters about a government out of touch with the real world has been intensified with each ridiculous new twist of this affair."

While the inquiry into McLeay's compensation payment was likely to find in the former speaker's favour, "this was an issue of tough politics, not legal technicalities," Kitney said.

McLeay said he was confident that a legal enquiry into the compensation would "vindicate my position."

Glenn Milne, political editor of national daily THE AUSTRALIAN, said McLeay's demise "is an act of political desperation that signals the knife-edge on which Labor's electoral fate is balanced."

"McLeay looks to have been dragged kicking and screaming to the executioner's block," Milne wrote. "The fact that he did not go sooner suggests an ominous misreading of the mood of the electorate by Keating."

The speaker's resignation came only hours before polls opened in Western Australia for a state election which spelled a defeat for Labor Premier Carmen Lawrence at the hands of a coalition led by the conservative Liberal Party.

With 83 percent of the ballots counted, Labor appeared to have lost five percent of the primary vote to its rival parties and independent candidates. It also looked as if the Liberal-led coalition would have a majority of at least six seats in the state parliament.

State elections do not affect the composition of the federal parliament, but the results are usually interpreted by the parties as a barometer of public political opinion.

The national parliament is due to resume February 23—and unless Keating calls an election before that date, its first task will be to elect a new speaker.

### Calls 13 Mar Elections

*BK0702061293 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 7 Feb 93*

[Text] The Australian prime minister, Paul Keating, has called a federal election for March 13. Mr. Keating announced today that the governor general, Bill Hayden, had accepted his recommendation to call the election. He says it will provide Australians with their starkest choice for a long time.

[Begin Keating recording] (?This is a situation) where the way of life of this country is really up for grabs, with an opposition with a highly ideological blanket policy, but we're reminding people of the great postwar economic changes have been presided over by this government and only this government will be able to draw (?beyond) the strength of the Australian people, those partnerships for cooperation that let us continue the great Australian change to give us higher levels of income, higher levels of employment, and holding our head up with the rest of the world. [end recording]

### 'Major Economic Statement' Expected

*BK0702071493 Hong Kong AFP in English 0655 GMT 7 Feb 93*

[By Tim Cribb]

[Text] Sydney, Feb 7 (AFP)—Prime Minister Paul Keating, his government battling a host of economic problems and growing voter disenchantment after 10 years of Labor rule, ended weeks of speculation Sunday, fixing Australia national polls for March.

Keating told a news conference in Canberra he had earlier seen Governor-General Bill Hayden, representative of Britain's Queen Elizabeth and constitutional head of state, and said his date for an election for the House of Representatives and half the Senate had been accepted.

"This election will be principally about the economy and unemployment," Keating said.

Conservative opposition leader John Hewson told a subsequent news conference in Sydney: "This government's been in power for 10 years and 10 years is long enough—I think most people feel that time is up for Labor."

There will be 147 members of the House of Representatives and 40 senators up for election.

Labor holds 77 seats in the House of Representatives, one of whom occupies the bipartisan position of speaker, with the Liberal Party holding 55 seats, its coalition partner the National Party 14, and two independents.

In the 76-seat Senate, there are seven Australian Democrats, 32 Labor, three independents, 29 Liberal and five Nationals.

A March 13 poll, less than five weeks away, means parliament will not resume February 23 as scheduled, and Keating said a major economic statement his government had planned to deliver "with or without an election" would be made on Tuesday.

The economic statement would include new measures to expand business opportunities and accelerate econinic growth, he said.

Keating said he would also outline Monday trade opportunities in Asia, and the government's strategy for taking advantage of them. "The Asia-Pacific is where our economic future lies."

The economy, of which Keating has been the leading architect since 1983, is expected to be the major issue of the campaign.

Unemployment is running at a near-record 11.3 percent, though inflation is at historically low levels, the current account deficit remains under pressure leading to record foreign debt, and microeconomic reform has been lagging.

Hewson said: "I think with nearly a million Australians unemployed and millions of others genuinely worried about whether or not they'll keep their job, the issue is going to be who is best able to manage this country."

The announcement of an election comes in the wake of a major Labor Party defeat in Western Australian state polls, where it had governed for 10 years.

The defeat of Labor's Carmen Lawrence was interpreted here as a sharp warning to Keating—the conservatives winning power on a swing of about five percent, the Liberal-National coaltion secured less than half the swing.

Keating maintained that the West Australian result played no part in determining the timing of the national election—the decision for a date understood to have been made last Friday.

"I thought it important the West Australian election be had in a climate where people could concentrate on those issues in Western Australia and not have the confusion of a federal poll overlaying it," he said.

Hewson is pinning his electoral hopes on voter disenchantment with Labor and an economic recovery program based on an unpopular 15 percent goods and services tax (GST) and a tougher stance on industrial relations.

Hewson said the West Australian result showed voters had ignored Labor scare tactics designed to discredit his GST.

"The dominant issue was economic management and unemployment, which of course has got a very significant state dimension as well as federal," Hewson said, expressing his confidence in a coalition win on March 13.

The coalition's policies for government, Keating said, made the 1993 election the most important in memory and was confident Labor would be returned to office.

"At stake is the future of our traditions of fairness and opportunity for all," he said. "At stake is everything we have achieved, everything Australians have achieved."

## W. Australian Loss 'Warning'

*BK0702110093 Hong Kong AFP in English 1038 GMT 7 Feb 93*

[Text] Perth, Australia, Feb 7 (AFP)—The defeat of Western Australia's Labor Government, headed by Carmen Lawrence, was interpreted here on Sunday as a warning to Labor Prime Minister Paul Keating, who faces a national poll on March 13.

Analysts said the swing against Labor on Saturday of about five percent, of which two-fifths went to the victorious Liberal-National Party coalition led by Richard Court, was a sufficient movement to pose serious problems for Labor if repeated at a national poll.

The coalition victory, ending a decade of Labor rule in a state the size of India, comes only four months after Labor suffered an even bigger setback in the state of Victoria, where Geoff Kennett led the conservatives into office.

Court, 45, a businessman, led the West Australian coalition parties to a comfortable win—though a less overwhelming one than predicted by some opinion polls.

With about 83 percent of votes counted, the coalition appeared likely to enjoy a majority of from five to 11 seats in the lower house Legislative Assembly, picking up at least five seats from Labor, with four others in doubt.

Western Australia has four marginal national seats, all held by Labor, which could change hands in a swing similar to that in the state poll.

Liberal Party director Andrew Robb said the coalition win was a morale-booster for the national opposition.

"The swing of about two percent to the coalition is quite healthy, a solid result for us," Robb said.

The remander of the swing was shared by minor parties and independents, another warning sign for the national poll.

"Because of what I regard as a very modest swing, I do not concede that we will lose federal seats in Western Australia, national secretary of the Labor Party, Bob Hogg said.

Court, son of former premier Sir Charles Court, said national conservative leader John Hewson should be pleased with the West Australian result because "they will flow through to the federal campaign. People need change—we simply cannot have a million people out of work."

Since Labor won national government in 1983, its state power base has been steadily eroded, the party having lost New South Wales, Tasmania, South Australia, Victoria and Western Australia, leaving Queensland its only state foothold.

## Evans Cancels U.S. Visit

*BK0802112593 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0803 GMT 8 Feb 93*

[From the "International Report" program]

[Text] Australia's upcoming election has prompted the cancellation of Foreign Minister Gareth Evans's planned trip to Washington later this month. But Senator Evans said Australia's trade minister, John Kerin, would go ahead with his visit to the United States for discussions on bilateral trade problems and world trade negotiations. Senator Evans had been scheduled to go to Washington to voice Australia's concern that the new Clinton administration is not giving a top priority to Asia. The foreign minister is talking to Graeme Dobell:

[Begin recording] [Evans] We had a look at the issue overnight and have decided that it really would be more comfortable for both countries if that visit by Australian foreign minister was deferred three or four weeks. Mr. Kerin's visit will, I believe, however, sensibly proceed. He was scheduled to go about 10 days earlier than I was. He is wearing not only an Australian bilateral hat as trade minister but also a Cairns Group chairman hat, and I think it is important that we have some Cairns Group input into the U.S. Administration before the congressional fast-track deadline expires on 2 March. So, that should proceed, but we have decided to defer mine for a few weeks.

[Dobell] How concerned is Australia to push the Clinton administration on its more broad approach to the Asia-Pacific? How worried are you about the emerging trends in Washington?

[Evans] Not really worried, but we do feel a need to sensitize the new administration to a whole range of Asia-Pacific issues. The nominees for senior posts, by and large, are without on-the-ground Asian experience. Those of them that have that experience, by and large, have been confined to China rather than Southeast Asia or the Asia-Pacific region in any larger sense. A whole variety of issues, both economic and security terms, need some close and sensitive attention in the period immediately ahead. We do think it will be very useful for us to get into a dialogue with the United States on those issues as soon as possible.

[Dobell] You are seeing a senior official of the Japanese Foreign Ministry tomorrow. Is it a matter of Australia and Japan trying to work together to catch Washington's attention?

[Evans] Well, I think it's a matter, really, of every country on this side of the Pacific working in a cooperative way to do just that. What's been fascinating is the way over the last two, three, or four years we have seen the emergence of a real sense of an Asia- Pacific community and a much greater degree of discussion, dialogue, engagement, between Australia and all the countries in this part of the world. We do, of course, have a more longstanding economic relationship with Japan and in many ways a more longstanding and direct political relationship with Japan as compared with other countries, not least because of their comembership of the OECD. But, and for that reason, I would expect Australia and Japan to continue working particularly closely together on these regional issues. But, really, the perspective that I am mentioning is one that's pretty well shared by all the countries on this side.

[Dobell] Will foreign affairs have an influence on the Australian vote, do you think?

[Evans] Probably not foreign affairs issues in the traditional sense but trade policy issues and, in particular, the perception of this Asia-Pacific region as the dynamic new growth opportunity not only for the world but for Australia. I think it will be a very important part of the campaign. There really is a very big wave out there waiting to be ridden by Australian business. There are huge new export opportunities opening up for us right on our own doorstep, in not just the traditional commodity areas which we've always been able to take advantage of but in new areas of higher technology manufacturing and more sophisticated services. It's that reality about this dynamism and growth in our own region that gives, I think, us more hope and confidence and optimism about the short- to medium-term future of the Australian economy, and then almost anything else that's happening either in Australia or around the world. And I'm sure by Mr. Keating starting with his speech on Asia-Pacific trade today, we'll be making this a central theme throughout the campaign. [end recording]

## Keating Proposes Asia-Pacific Common Market

*BK0802043493 Hong Kong AFP in English 0310 GMT 8 Feb 93*

[By Jack Taylor]

[Text] Sydney, Jan 8 (AFP)—Australian Prime Minister Paul Keating proposed Monday turning 15 major economies of the Asia-Pacific region into a common market which he predicted would become the "the world's most dynamic zone of production."

In the first speech of his campaign to win the March 13 election, Keating acknowledged unemployment as Australia's major problem and proposed strengthening trading links with Asia and the Pacific rim as the best longterm solution.

In a speech which highlighted Australia's achievements as an exporter, he also made clear its concern that Washington's new administration could be about to take the wrong route on trade and warned of the resentment it would cause if it did.

"There is no doubt in my mind that the Clinton adminstration intends to pursue a very robust market-opening strategy with Asian trading partners," Keating said.

"And equally there is no doubt in my mind that unless the United States goes about it the right way, it risks causing resentment and resistance."

His remarks reflect increasing concern among officials here that the new United States Administration is showing less interest than the previous one in finding a solution to the Uruguay Round of GATT trade talks.

At the same time, Canberra fears Washington could be losing interest in the Asia-Pacific region and believes there is now a pressing need for efforts to engage the United States in dialogue aimed at reviving this interest.

Keating said U.S. pressure in bilateral trade negotiations had encouraged market-openings that would not otherwise have occurred to the benefit of many countries.

But if the benefits of bilateral trade pressures were reserved only for the United States as had appeared in the auto-parts arrangements of 1991, "then the entire world trading system based on equal access would be put at risk."

"And if the U.S. neglects to provide in its own economy the market access it demands in others—as it once did in supercomputer negotiations—then sooner or later its trade partners will resist."

Keating's proposed vehicle for strengthening regional trade links are the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) countries.

These are Japan, China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, South Korea, the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and the six Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) nations member: Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

"It is opportune that the U.S. will this year be the venue for the annual meeting of APEC ministers," Keating said.

Australia should continue to look to successful GATT outcomes to free up trade and "to move us towards greater integration in the production of goods, while supplementing those outcomes with regional agreements in some sectors.

"At the same time, we can act regionally to remove administrative, legal, bureaucratic and infrastructural impediments to trade and investment.

"In other words, we should seek as our goal an integrated market ... of two billion people producing half the world's output, bound together with harmonised trade rules, harmonised investment rules, harmonised standards and certification and an agreed way of settling disputes between members."

Keating said APEC countries ought to be able to discuss between themselves impediments to trade and investment which Washington now discusses bilaterally with its East Asian partners.

He proposed talks about a framework agreement "which would set our goal of establishing an open economic association in the Asia Pacific region, in which economies were by degrees integrated to create the world's most dynamic zone of production.

### Japan Supports Plan

*BK0802100493 Hong Kong AFP in English 0813 GMT 8 Feb 93*

[Text] Sydney, Feb 8 (AFP)—Japan's deputy foreign minister Koichiro Matsuura gave his qualified backing Monday to an Australian plan for an integrated common market based on the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation group (APEC).

"We can no longer leave the maintenance of Asia Pacific growth to market-led development alone but must cooperate consciously to improve the conditions for growth," Matsuura told the National Press Club in Canberra.

Prime Minister Paul Keating told a trade conference here Monday that Australia's goal should be an integrated market of two billion people from the APEC countries, producing half the world's output.

It would become "the world's most dynamic zone of production" bound together with harmonised trade and investment rules, as well as harmonised standards and an agreed way of settling disputes between members.

Matsuura said he believed APEC was the only suitable framework to promote harmonised investment, standards, certification rules and agreed ways of settling disputes.

However, he cautioned APEC members to be patient about cementing greater economic ties because of the political, cultural and religious diversity among them.

That diversity also was the reason why the creation of a fully-fledged free trade agreement in the region was premature, Matsuura said.

Matsuura proposed several measures he said would maintain dynamic economic development in the Asia Pacific, which is the subject of talks in Canberra on Monday and Tuesday.

Whatever form of regional cooperation was created, it had to be one that complemented and strengthened the structure of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), Matsuura said.

Asia Pacific nations should be working towards achieving the earliest possible conclusion to the Uruguay Round of talks and also had to look at promoting cooperation in non-trade areas.

"In future we should consider gradually strengthening APEC's institutions so that these efforts can lead to more effective dismantling of intra-regional barriers."

Matsuura said neighbouring countries including Vietnam, India, the South Pacific and Latin American countries could be integrated in the future.

APEC was initiated in 1989 by Australia's former prime minister Bob Hawke.

It is composed of Japan, China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, South Korea, the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and the Association of South East Asian Nations nations, Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

Keating said Monday Australia should continue to look to successful GATT outcomes to "to move us towards greater integration in the production of goods, while supplementing those outcomes with regional agreements in some sectors."

He made clear Australia's concern that Washington's new administration could be about to take the wrong route on trade and warned of the resentment it would cause if it did.

"There is no doubt in my mind that the Clinton adminstration intends to pursue a very robust market-opening strategy with Asian trading partners," Keating said.

"And equally there is no doubt in my mind that unless the United States goes about it the right way, it risks causing resentment and resistance."

APEC countries ought to be able to discuss between themselves impediments to trade and investment which Washington now discusses bilaterally with its East Asian partners.

### Bank Forecasts Continued High Unemployment

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[Text] Melbourne, Australia, Feb 8 (AFP)—Analysis of jobs advertised in Australia this year indicates that the rate of unemployment is unlikely to fall from 11.3 percent in coming months, the ANZ Banking Group said Monday.

The group said its advertisement series fell by 4.2 percent in January after a 5.8 percent gain in December, although the number of jobs advertised in metropolitan daily newspapers in Australia's six states was now up 4.1 percent from a year ago.

The figures were published one day after Prime Minister Paul Keating announced that Australia will go to the polls on March 13, and the conservative opposition immediately described them as an election blow for the ruling Labor party.

Analysing the data, ANZ Group economist Graham Hodges said:

"The seasonally adjusted series tends to be more volatile around the Christmas/New Year period because of the timing of holidays. Taking the December and January figures together, the series remains on a modest upward trend.

"The trend series has grown by just over 1.0 percent per month over the past six months compared with trend growth of just under 0.5 percent over the first six months of 1992.

"This suggests that employment growth will remain modest in coming months, with little prospect of a fall in the unemployment rate."

Government figures show that the rate of unemployment dipped from 11.4 percent in November—its highest since the great Depression of the 1930s—to 11.3 percent in December.

The number of jobless currently stands at 978,700 and some economists have forecast that it will top one million when January's figures are released on Thursday.

Deputy opposition leader Peter Reith commented "the ANZ notes that recent trends in the Job Ads series indicate little prospect of an improvement in the unemployment rate."

"The government has its own forecast, but has refused to release the number—obviously because its advisers believe unemployment will remain unacceptably high," he added.